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TALKING WITH THE WINCHESTERS!

WEEKLY WORLD® NEWS
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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH TV'S SUPERNATURAL HUNTERS!

ALIEN GHOST HAUNTS ROSWELL!

Security cameras capture ghostly image at UFO center!

GOD'S TO-DO LIST!

What the Almighty planned to do on 7th day!

WORLD'S WEIRDEST IMAGINARY FRIEND!

You Won't Believe Your Eyes!

GOD'S 'TO DO' FOUND!

AMAZING CHORES LEFT UNFINISHED!

By D. PATRICK

WHILE installing new plumbing beneath the Vatican, a team of blue-and-white collar workers turned up one of the most astonishing artifacts ever found.

"It was a polished marble tablet with carved words and markings," Monsignor Carlo Renzulli told *Weekly World News*. "We thought it might be an ancient Papal epistle, perhaps dating back to St. Peter or St. Linus."

Translation of the writing proved this to be something even more astonishing: the very document the Lord Himself used to continue his work on the Eighth Day.

"As everyone is aware, God created the Heavens and the Earth in six days and rested on the seventh," Monsignor Renzulli went on. "Church scholars now theorize that beginning the following day, God walked among the beasts, fish and fowl, surveying His handiwork. He

could be done better or differently.

"The marble tablet is His personal punch list."

Among the items listed and checked off:

- Elongate giraffe necks so they don't have to compete with other animals for food on the ground.
- Separate the one, massive continent Pangaea into separate land masses so a greater diversity of life can develop.
- Organize all living creatures into a hierarchical food chain. Current system is too chaotic.
- [illegible]
- Turn sky a darker shade of blue later in the day so it doesn't just go from bright blue to black. Try some reds for variety.
- Check on Adam and Eve, then put this list where I won't forget it.

Items God contemplated doing but never completed [illegible]:

- Move camel humps to side for easier riding.
- Irrigate the Sahara desert.
- Distribute oil [illegible] to prevent proliferation.
- Eliminate the cockroach. What was I thinking?

"Clearly, Almighty God was so upset by what He [illegible] in the Garden of Eden that He forgot all about the 'let' Monsignor Renzulli [illegible] "It's [illegible] Until 'Make atoms shatter-proof' was a good idea."

WASHINGTON, D.C. – After the disastrous reception accorded his latest State of the Union Address, George Bush has decided that his final one, next year, will be a musical.

"We're calling it *The President and I*," said White House spokesperson Roger Hammerstein. "Dick Cheney has agreed to sing backup vocals and – even though we've heard she can't carry a tune – we're hoping that Speaker Nancy Pelosi will sign on in the name of bipartisanship."

Among the tunes being considered are "The Big Country of Uncle Sam," "The Long March of the Military," "Shall We Advance?" and "Western People are Sunni."

"Whatever the final selections, you can bet Bush's last State of the Union Address will be 'fine-tuned,'" said the spokesperson.

– *Lila Dubinsky*

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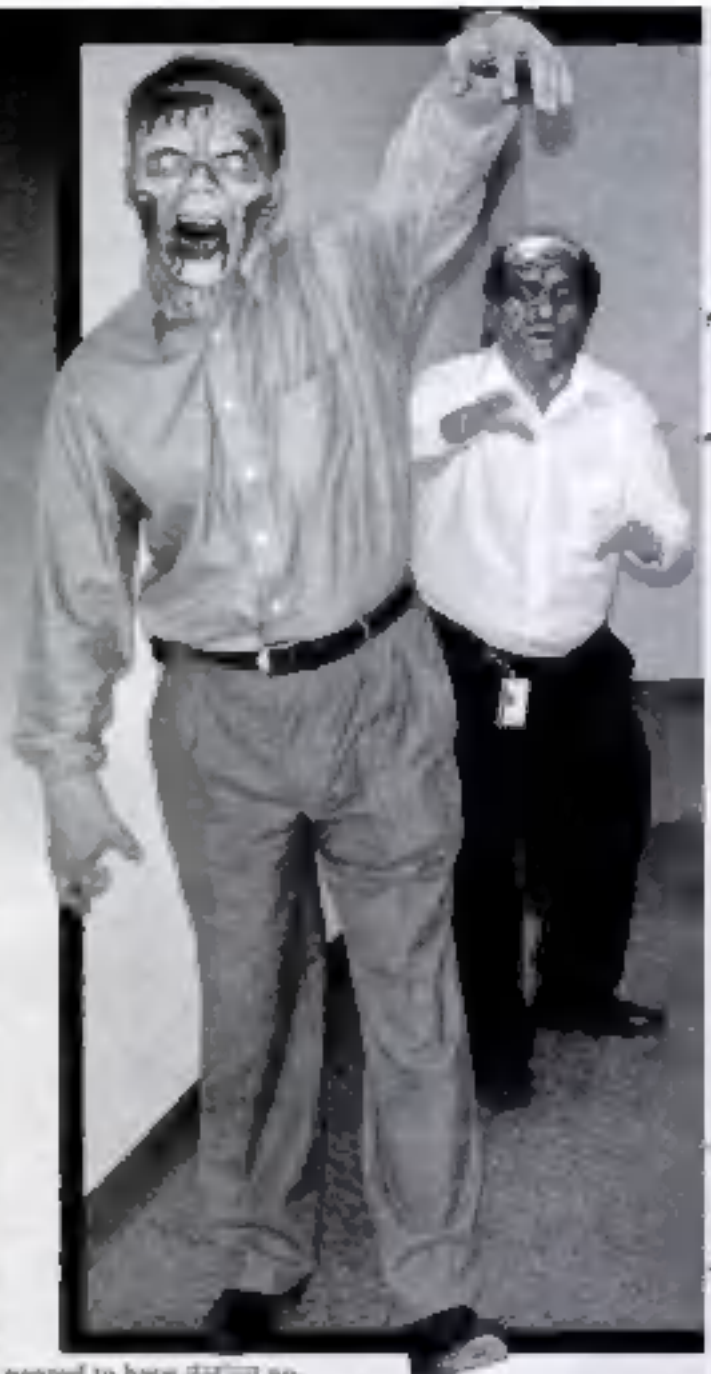
WWN reporter blows lid off Wall Street plot to replace workers with....

WHITE COLLAR ZOMBIES



By DICK SIEGEL

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Unholy forces have begun to infiltrate corporate America — and everyone is at risk!

"I had just started a new job on Wall Street when I noticed strange things going on," stockbroker Ray Burnley told *Weekly World News*. "Since a lot of is tied to foreign markets, it's not unusual to see people already at work when I arrive in the morning.

"What was odd was that these people never left their desks — no bathroom breaks, no coffee runs, no water cooler chat. They even ate lunch in their cubicles, typing between bites.

peared to have dating potential." Burnley went on.

"Leaning casually against the entrance to her cubicle, I found myself doing all the talking. Her vacant eyes never left the computer monitor, nor did she ever respond. I soon gave up, thinking — ironically — 'What a zombie.'

"Little did I know how right I was," Burnley shuddered.

The stockbroker soon became aware that most of the staff had the same lifeless pallor and vacant look but with a shamed a Puritan.

"These folks were working 24/7," he went on. "At first I attributed their social distance to stress. Heck, the overtime must have been killing them."

In fact, it was something else as Burnley discovered when he came in half-asleep very early one morning.

"Groggy, I wasn't paying attention when the elevator let me off on the floor below mine," Burnley said. "I rounded the

Sometimes normal in appearance - brokers are only interested in working and who their next meal is!

"Instead, there was a conference room. I heard what sounded like chanting coming from behind the door. I tiptoed over and looked in the window.

"A blonde temp lay outstretched on a large glass table, surrounded by the carefully arranged skulls of small animals," Burnley said. "The woman wasn't moving. The air was thick with black incense. Standing above her, chanting in French, wearing a red cloak festooned with runic symbols, was the director of Human Re-

"Samedi saw me and quickly gestured to some of the others in the room. As I turned to go, several employees gave slow, clumsy chase. They shambled toward me, arms akimbo, murder in their dead, unblinking eyes.

"The only means of protection I had was a nearby fire extinguisher," the broker said. "I twisted the nozzle and blasted them with foam. The employees staggered blindly back as I raced down the stairs to the street below."

Broadway, Burnley called the police from a nearby phone booth. Within minutes, New York's Finest swarmed the building.

What investigators discovered was a white collar slave ring with links to unspecified stock and banking interests in the Caribbean. Sol Samedi was

kill employees and revive them as mindless, hard-working zombies. The goal was not just to eliminate salaries and benefits, but to give 'buy' recommendations to corporations owned by these West Indian consortiums.

"Their aim was to shift the balance of the world's wealth from oil cartels to individuals who controlled the world's supply of zombies," said Burnley. "How prevalent this infiltration has become among corporate America is anyone's guess. However, the telltale signs of the living dead are easy to spot. All you have to do is what I did: look beyond your cubicle."

Weekly World News will continue to bring you additional information on the white collar zombies as it — and they — are

Bigfoot's Courting Advice

SMYRNA, Ga. — Bigfoot has a busy schedule what with foraging for food, trying to avoid humans, and serving as a guest editor for *Weekly World News*. But he's never too busy to go on a nice, romantic date.

Although he can roar like a mighty gorilla and hurl a boulder as if it were a football, Bigfoot is a sensitive giant who knows how to woo the ladies.

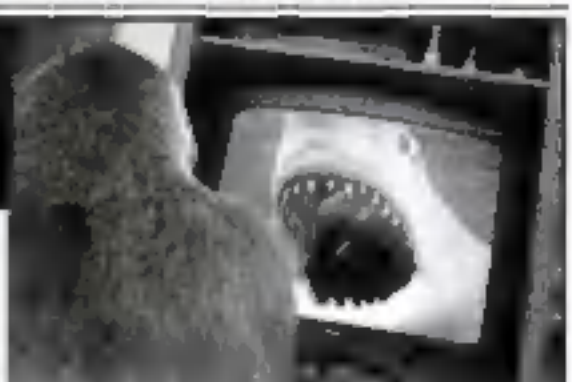
After a little coaxing, he agreed to share — in his own words — his primitive yet highly effective courting rituals.

By NIGEL FLEMING

"These good for She-Bigfoot or pretty hairless lady," he assured us.

- "Not roar, 'Hey! *Come now!*' Say like bear cub, 'Hey! You have smelly mate?'"
- "Shower long in waterfall."
- "Find big twig . . . [illegible] ears."
- "[illegible] in flowers so smell good — watch out thorns."
- "Come early more better. Find stump to sit while wait."
- "Offer carry her cross bog . . . not make walk."
- "Tell lady she pretty — even if mud or [illegible] bugs on face."
- "Give pretty lei . . . [illegible] ivy bad idea."
- "Take girl eat in nice field."
- "Scratch own fleas when date not look."
- "Make yummy dinner. Rabbit good, skunk bad."
- "Suck mud from water for lady."
- "Be funny like buzzard, not stupid like squirrel."
- "No lie. Lady always find out."
- "No look other ladies while date watching."
- "No squash grapes and drink."
- "Go after-dinner stroll. Watch out snakes and hunters and axes."
- "Offer shake hand end date. If she giggle, you in like Bigfoot."
- "Send candy next day. With bugs, if giggle all she do."

BIGFOOT GOES TO THE MOVIES!



RADIAL TYRE, Ga. — *Weekly World News* wondered what kind of [illegible] favorite hairy hominid enjoys. We decided to find out.

We took Bigfoot to Disc-O-Plenty, a local video store, and indicated that he should take whatever he liked off the shelves. After selecting popcorn, Junior Mints and a case of Jolt Cola he reluctantly moved from the food aisle to the films.

Bigfoot slowly wandered along the racks, picking up DVD after DVD and sniffing the interesting – presumably scented by the perfume or musk of the previous borrower – we rented it.

Luckily, we steered him from the documentary section even though it brought us to the Merchant Ivory section. We shudder to think what would have happened if he had seen *The Hunting of Bigfoot* DVD.

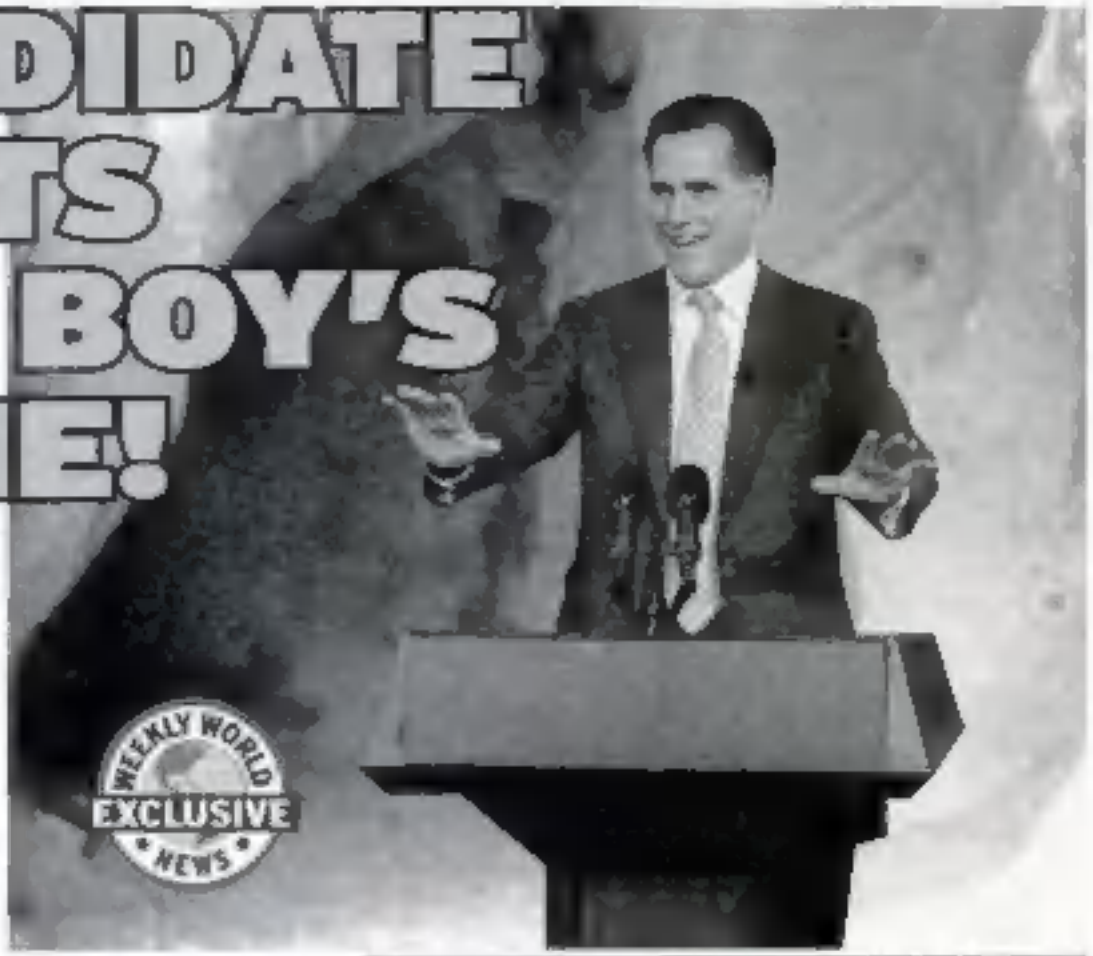
Here is what Bigfoot borrowed and, using his rudimentary power of speech, what he thought.

- *Finding Nemo*: Fish . . . tasty.
- *Room With A View*: Disc fly interesting.
- *Jaws*: Him Bigfoot of water!
- *Il Postino*: Men talk funny.
- *The English Patient*: Sleep. Wake up. Movie still on. Sleep. Wake up. Movie still on.
- *Star Wars*: Hairy brother no get medal.
- *Spider-Man 2*: He brave. Doc Ock scare Bigfoot.
- *Miss Congeniality*: Bigfoot like hairless lady.
- *Matrix*: Make head hurt.
- *Blair Witch Project*: Bigfoot know how to make movie. Him make little man.
- *Too Fast, Too Furious*: Vroom! Vroom! Vroooooooom!
- *Boys Don't Cry*: Me not Bam! Ba-Doom!
- *Lord Of the Rings*: Make butt hurt.
- *Ocean's Twelve*: Friends good!
- *Fight Club*: Ka-Pow!
- *Titanic*: Bigfoot know how to swim. He save little man.

CANDIDATE VISITS BAT BOY'S HOME!

Romney promises to protect spelunkers from monsters

By D. PATRICK



WEST VIRGINIA — Former Gov. Mitt Romney made a campaign stop at the famous cave where Bat Boy was found, using the scenic location to discuss safety issues.

Romney, running for the Republican Party's presidential nomination, stood before the cave entrance for a photo op while a press representative told a throng of supporters, bewildered tourists and reporters, "Given the incredible discovery that was made in this cave, the governor feels we need to be more vigilant about protecting workers and explorers from monsters. We ask our fellow citizens to enter these caves to work and we need to ensure that they can safely walk out at the end of the day."

FORMER governor believes creatures like Bat Boy threaten our nation's coal supply.

Walking near the entrance but declining to enter, Romney reportedly remarked that itself from foreign energy supplies so it's of paramount importance that our nation's resources are safe. Creatures like Bat Boy, he was overheard to say, are a threat that has to be contained so our miners can dig with confidence.

The fifty-year-old former governor of Massachusetts had been criticized by federal investigators for mistakes made during the expensive Big Dig project in Boston. His appearance at the cave where Bat Boy was found in 1992 was designed to burnish his image on miner safety.

Bat Boy, last seen in Manhattan, was unavailable

Zap attack

Laredo, Texas — Texas created a "people-zapper" for use in border control with Mexico. The device was similar to a bug-zapper, but much larger.

"It was great," said Immigration and Security Chief Frank Butler. "Anyone who tried to cross the border illegally was systematically buzzed. It really cut down on border patrol necessities and costs."

Butler said the people-zapper remained in place for about two years before being

ernment. An estimated 5,324 attempted-immigrants were zapped away from entering the United States.

"It was actually kind of fun to watch," Butler recalled. "The bzzzt bzzzt was almost soothing and the soft blue glow it gave off was easy on the eyes."

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AFTER opening a popular Chinese restaurant in Manhattan, Chuck Lee discovered that eating large amounts of hot mustard enabled him to foretell the future. Chuck has consented to share his remarkable predictions in a weekly column:

2008
AUSTIN, Texas

Due to the growing epidemic of obesity and its impact on healthcare costs, the state government passes a law making gluttony illegal. Anyone guilty of overeating is sent to food court for sentencing.

2009
ALBANY, N.Y.

Clothing manufacturers design socks containing molecular tags that cause members of a pair to be drawn to each other. People no longer lose a sock in the washing machine thanks to these 'sock locks.'

2010
AUSTIN, Texas

Because so many people are convicted of gluttony, the government is forced to build special prisons containing fat cells.

2012
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Department of Defense develops what it hopes will be a devastating new weapon. Unfortunately, the helium bomb floats away before it can be tested.

2013
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The United States is both gratified and apologetic when its helium bomb explodes over Asia, causing one billion Chinese to talk in unintelligible, high-pitched voices for a year.

2017
RABAT, Morocco

Botanists splice the DNA of bamboos and weeping willows to create bamboo-hoo-hoos.

2018
STRAVINSKY, Maine

Meanwhile, American botanists discover a true 'rite of spring.' It turns out that trees actually wed one another and that trunk rings

2011
NAIROBI, Kenya

Meteorologists discover that when hippos come from their mud holes on Feb. 2 and see their shadows, it means another six months of

2019
CHICAGO, Ill.
Sports surgeons discover that the best protection for a male athlete's groin is underwear full of batter, which has incredible absorptive properties. Sporting goods manufacturers immediately begin to market 'cup-cakes.'

don't indicate a tree's age but rather the number of spouses it's had.

2019
AUGUSTA, Maine
Botanists also discover that these tree wedding ceremonies are actually performed by grizzlies, also referred to as 'ring bears.'

2020
MANHATTAN, N.Y.
Advertising companies employ psychics to project ads directly into peoples' minds. Consumers cannot resist this new type of tele-marketing.

2020
MANHATTAN, N.Y.
The government bans tele-marketing when pop-ups are introduced into peoples' fields of vision causing a spike in car accidents.

2021
YUMA, Ariz.
Paleontologists discover fossils with muscle scars suggesting that certain dinosaurs had incredible leaping powers due to over-developed thigh muscles. The brief period when these dinosaurs thrived is named the Quadrassic Period.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

2022
LOS ANGELES, Calif.
Astrologers augment their income by creating a new line of clothing based on the signs of the zodiac. The first offerings are eleven new kinds of sportswear, which include virgotards, cancertards and libratards.

2023
LOS ANGELES, Calif.
Hoping to expand their influence by spreading only funny, upbeat advice, astrologers invent a lighthearted system called the 'Bozodiac.' Among the twelve signs are Seltza the Bottle, Custardo the Pie and Bananus the Peel.

2024
LOS ANGELES, Calif.
Several practitioners of internal medicine form their own branch of pseudo-science called 'gastrology.' They attempt to predict peoples' futures by studying flatulence.

2024
LOS ANGELES, Calif.
Gastrology is discontinued because of the high mortality rate among doctors.

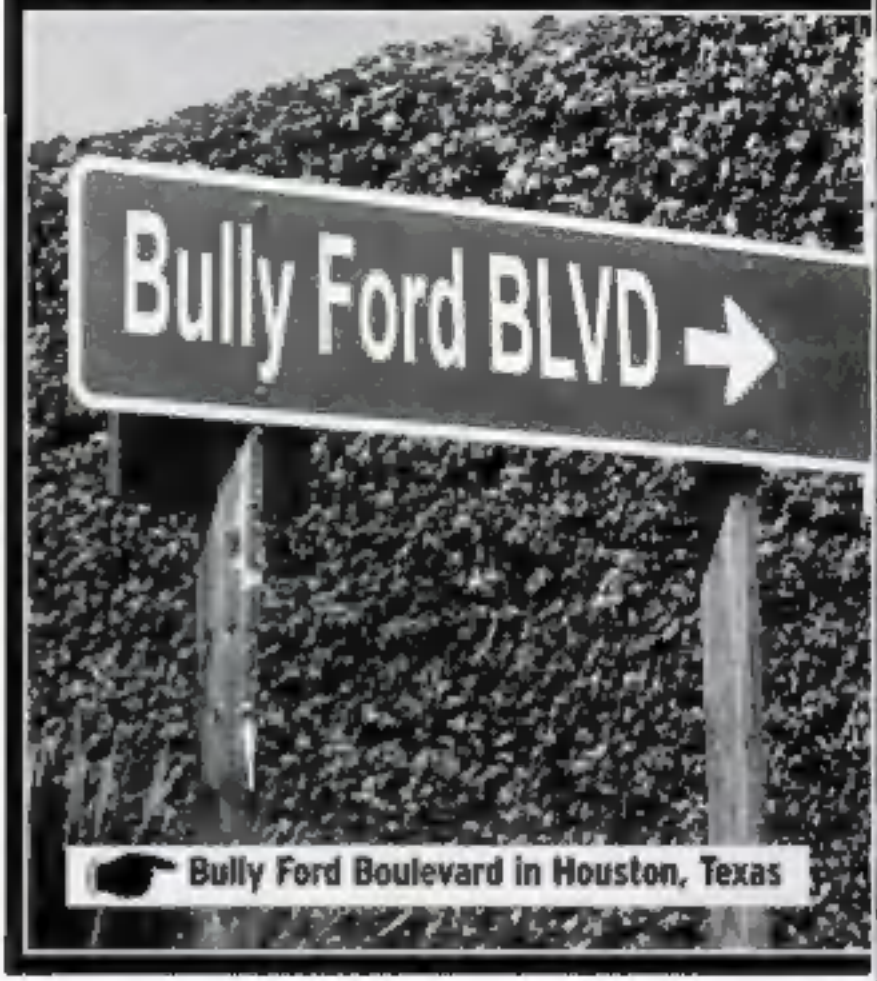
2320
SHANGHAI, China
Changing times demand changing customs, and a new generation of Chinese finds value in updating traditional annual celebrations. The shift begins with the Year of the Wildebeest, making this the first gnu year in millennia.

WE'RE NOT KIDDING:

DVD SHOCKER!

TULSA, Okla. – VCI Entertainment has just released *The Lost City* on DVD. The 1935 serial is about the mad scientist Zolok – overplayed by the alcoholic, drug-abusing actor William 'Stage' Boyd – who, among other things, possesses a device that turns black men into white men. An embarrassing but powerful reminder of the way we were.

REAL ROADS



Bully Ford Boulevard in Houston, Texas

Einstein's grandpa had a close encounter?

By DORIAN WAGNER

SURPRISE SMARTS

IT WAS IN 1904 that something 94 years in the works came to fruition.

In 1810, a Greek peddler was visited by a "strange little man in a silver suit" who emerged from a bizarre flying machine. The little man handed the peddler a sealed envelope with "June 3, 1904: 8:30 a.m." written on it. It was only to be opened by his great-great grandson. No one else would understand the message it contained, the little man said.

The peddler kept the envelope for years until, on his deathbed, he passed it to his son. The son then passed it to his

THIS WEEK IN 1904 HISTORY

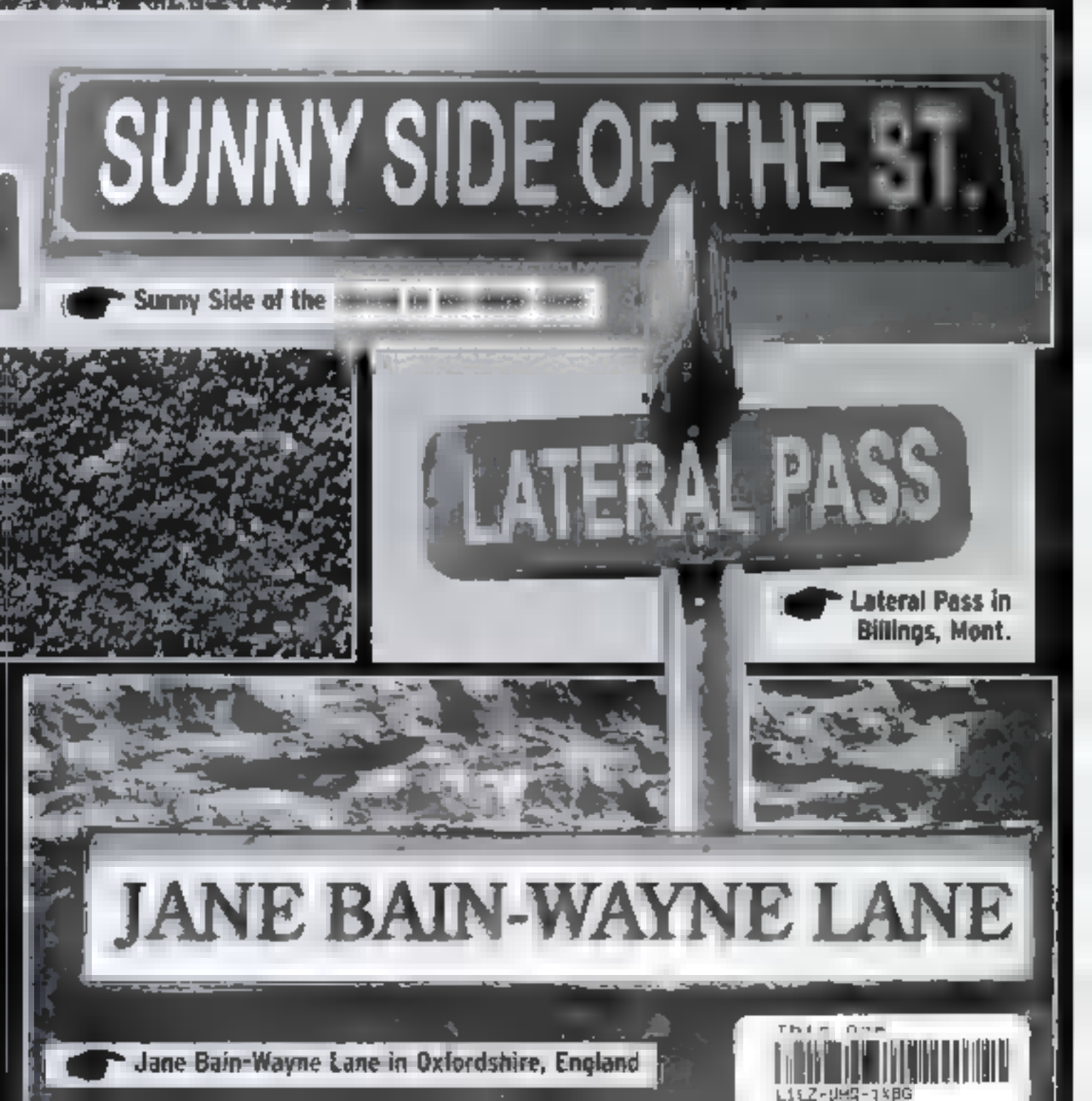
the right person – 17-year-old Al, who was training to be a mathematics and physics teacher at the Swiss Federal Polytechnic School in Zurich.

Years later, on the morning of June 3, 1904, Al was about ready to leave for class when he realized the date and time on the envelope had finally arrived. Stopping everything, he opened it with trembling hands. What fateful message from another world would it reveal? Al removed the note and read:

$E = mc^2$

And with that, Albert Einstein had the basis for what would later

YOU WON'T BELIEVE!



Sunny Side of the [redacted]

Lateral Pass in Billings, Mont.

Jane Bain-Wayne Lane in Oxfordshire, England

TALKING WITH THE WINCHESTERS!

PART 2

By PAUL KUPPERBERG

Last week, *Weekly World* [illegible] presented the [illegible] part [illegible] an exclusive interview with [illegible] ers of the paranormal, brothers Dean and Sam Winchester. In Part One, the brothers discussed a recent case in which *Weekly World News* helped take down an evil supernatu[illegible] week, the[illegible]alk about [illegible] their start in the 'family business.'

WWN: Your family has suffered quite a bit at the [illegible]

DEAN: [illegible] er and our Dad...

WWN: After your moth-

er's death, your father, John Winchester, [illegible] his to finding her killer.

DEAN: Dad was a Marine. He wasn't about to take it lying down.

SAM: He asked questions, followed leads and discovered there was a world of the paranormal out there — that the myths and legends we've all heard were true.

DEAN: And he met other Hunters like Bobby Singer — believers who weren't going to sit back and let the bad guys win.

WWN: So as soon as you were old enough, you joined your father on his hunts?

DEAN: We were pretty tight there for a [illegible]

SAM: I tried to live my own life... went to college ...

WWN: What changed your mind?

SAM: I lost my girlfriend to the same demon that killed our [illegible] Then Dad disap-

DEAN: While wasting some pretty nasty customers along [illegible]

WWN: This same demon had something to do with your [illegible] er's death as well?

SAM: We're pretty sure of that.

Exclusive Weekly World News Interview With SUPERNATURAL Demon Hunters Dean and Sam Winchester!

DEAN: One day we're gonna find that yellow-eyed bastard. I only wish we still had the gun.

WWN: A demon-killing gun?

SAM: A Colt revolver, made by Samuel Colt himself. Seems he was a Hunter, too. Over a hundred years ago he forged a gun with the power to kill anything.

WWN: That could come in handy.

DEAN: You said it. Only the gun disappeared at the same time Dad died.

WWN: Is it true, Sam, that you have some kind of psychic abilities?

DEAN: He's reading your mind right now...

SAM: Stop. I sometimes get "visions," see things that might happen. They're like dreams. I'm not the only one. Kids born about the same time — who also have abilities. The demon says he has plans for us...

DEAN: Yeah, well he's gotta get through me first. Don't worry. We'll find him and we'll find a way to take him out. Before he can do whatever his plans are.

WWN: So the fight your father started is far from over?

DEAN: We said it, dude.

WWN: I think that about wraps it up. Thanks for your time.

DEAN: No problem. We've gotta hit the road anyway. There's only two of us and a lot of ground to cover.

SAM: And a lot of weird ness to hunt down. I'll drive.

DEAN: My '67 Chevy Impala? I don't think so, little brother.

HAPPY B-EARTH DAY!

CANDLE BAY, North Pole – The earth passed a big milestone on Jan. 20 when it celebrated its four billionth birthday.

"Geologists have determined that the planet stopped accreting – that is, getting slammed by loose rock that was orbiting the sun – on Jan. 20, 3,999,997,993 B.C.," said Professor William Stoneman of the World Age Institute. "It was officially finished and open for business."

Volcanism from the crushed rock spewed the gases that created our atmosphere. The hydrogen and oxygen later combined to create water.

WART celebrated the event by planting 399 candles at the North Pole.

"We lit them all and then made a wish," Stoneman gushed anything by telling you that in the glow of those beautiful flames, we wished for an end to global warming."

There's supernatural – then there's

'HYPERNATURAL' PARANORMAL

RISING FROM THE DEPTHS OF HELL
ON ALL WHO WOULD DESECRATE

the army-of the-dead supernatural!

BEINGS BAFFLE EXPERTS!

SENKAKU ISLANDS, East China Sea — As reported several weeks ago in the online edition of *Weekly World News*, on rough, dark seas, Chinese and Japanese ships faced off for what seemed to be a violent confrontation near these desolate and oil-rich

By JIM KUDA

"China's fight with Japan for the islands has lasted more than a century, with the People's Republic claiming that the Chinese discovered the islands in the 14th century," said Tokyo Historical Bureau spokesperson Mei Sama. "Japan claimed the territory during the first Sino-Japanese War in . However, it has become a hot bed of dispute since the discovery of significant oil fields in the region."

Now, however, both sides have discovered a terrifying new opponent in their dispute, one with no known national affiliation . . . or even a connection with humanity!

"I saw dark shapes rising from the water," said Tsang Diayou, a geologist who was aboard the Chinese vessel. "It looked like we'd had a massive hull-rupture and fuel was leaking. I wish that had been the case."

The crew of the Chinese Sovremenny-class destroyer depict dozens of human-like figures standing in the water around the vessels. The beings can be seen pressing against the bows of both ships, and — in one dramatic photograph — actually capsizing the Japanese cruiser.

"They looked like an army surrounding us," Tsang said after his vessel limped back to Hong Kong. "But an army of *what?*"

Photographs and eyewitness accounts of the confrontation have both stumped and terrified paranormal experts.

"In the same way that supernatural events defy scientific explanation, this event defies explanation by any known paranormal methodology," said Dr. Ja of the Institute of the Preternatural. "We are afraid that some new of evasion or ghost is at large — one that is non-corporeal yet to move physical matter.

"And we're not just talking about plates and picture frames that poltergeists occasionally toss about," Dr. Brendt said. "We're looking at paranormal forces that can overturn a twelve thousand ton ship! If they ever show up in a populated area, think what they could do to a building or aircraft!

"It's rare for me to lose sleep over other supernatural occurrences," said the seasoned parapsychologist. "But if this force remains unexplained — and uncontained — it could turn out to be the most frightening development in the history of the paranormal."

Brendt speculates that may be the spirits of deceased seamen who draw unlimited power from the sea itself or its oil deposits.

"Of course, it would help to know if they are after something or merely protecting the ," said Mei Sama. "By frightening off the Chinese and Japanese, are they claiming the Senkaku Islands as their own? Or are they operating on behalf of another, yet undetected, party in the dispute?" She added, "And I don't mean a nation but some evil entity."

In the meantime, Brendt has some advice for both countries.

"They would be well advised to drop their petroleum-fueled dispute and leave the islands alone until we learn more about these inhabitants," he said.

"Otherwise, the world could

THEY WREAKED HAVOC THEIR ENVIRONMENT!

Hi, Dolly

MY HUSBAND DIED TOO YOUNG

Hi, Dolly: My husband passed away from a heart attack in his sleep. Dolly, he was just sixty years old and we'd been married for twenty-six years. I miss him so much. It's like a part of me died with him. Will I ever get over losing him?

People mean well when they say they can imagine what I'm going through. But they don't really know. They can't.

Please let me know that things will get better with time. Thanks for listening, Dolly, and God bless you. — Honey in Adelphia

Dear Honey: Poor dear. You may never get over missin' your hubby. But maybe in time, you'll meet someone who will please and comfort you — if you're lucky and if you let them into your life. Try to be with other people even if you have to force yourself to go out. If they say they understand — and they don't — just say, "Thank you for carin'..."

And think on this: You had a lovin' marriage. As my dear daddy used to say, "You had a helluva lot more than most folks get. And more than you deserve. Not everyone can say that. Be grateful for that."

Dyin' is part of livin', sweetie, and if you believe in God as I know you do by your last letter to me, I hope that will comfort you.

Does he have a right to hit me?

Hi, Dolly: I have a boyfriend, eighteen months older. I am nineteen. I get along with him. He likes my mom and dad. Me and his mom are friends.

But that's why I'm writing to you. He is nice one minute and gives me a hug, then a little later he hits me. I have a temper. Does he have the right to hit me? — Marge

Dear Marge: No, no, and no. No one has the right to hit you, and you mustn't let it happen, no matter how much you like this fella when he's nice to you. He don't got no respect for you if he hits you, plus he could be dangerous when he gets hold of him. You got to tell him loud and clear that you ain't no punchin' bag — and if he don't get the message, lose the

Gals who get hitched to guys like that end up fearin' for themselves but don't see it coming out, especially if they have children. I'm glad you found out things got to that point.

Now spell out and if he don't heed you, get out!

My fiancé won't talk to me!

Hi, Dolly: I love my fiancé, but that he gets mad and won't really talk to me sometimes. I know what he's feeling and thinking and he gets mad at me if I ask.

My girlfriends say that lots of men are like this and I should just put up with it. What do you think? — Meryl in Johnstown

Dear Meryl: Many men don't open up the way women do, but that ain't true of all of 'em, I reckon. If your fella keeps this up, you'll find yourself attracted to someone else who ain't so wrapped up in his own self.

Everyone needs to keep some things to themselves, but your honey ain't payin' no mind to your feelin's.

I'd postpone the nuptials, hon, and try to work this out. I promise you, he ain't gonna improve after he says, 'I do.'

WRITE TO DOLLY

Send Dolly your [illegible] — and tell her how it was in the days before Dolly, c/o Weekly World News, 1 Park Avenue, 3rd Floor, New York, N.Y. 10016 or e-mail her at: [illegible]

Now your favorite advice columnist comes to you for more on this week's

ARM RY VW

NEW YORK, N.Y. – After studying documents declassified under the Freedom of Information Act, *Weekly World News* has learned the real reason the torch of the Statue of Liberty has been off-limits to tourists for ninety years.

"Ostensibly, the arm of Lady Liberty was no longer structurally sound enough to support visitors," said historian Tom Ellis. "Not so. In truth, the descendents of Frédéric Bartholdi – who designed the statue – were given an open-ended lease on the torch."

At present, seventy-year-old Chuck Bartholdi lives in the hundred-square-foot space. He is related to the sculptor on his father's side.

"Mr. Bartholdi climbs down the long spiral staircase once a week to go shopping in New Jersey because it's cheaper than Manhattan," said Ellis. "The rest of the time he feeds the gulls, watches TV and makes faces at the tourists.

"Well, he *is* from

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IMPORTANT: [illegible]

...and more fascinating...
TRIV

By PAUL [illegible]

[illegible] and editors of Weekly World News unearth astonishing trivia while researching the [illegible] stories you read in our paper. Here's a sample of some of our recent discoveries:

● Richard Milhous Nixon was the first U.S. president whose name contains all the letters needed to spell the word "criminal."

● Venus is the only planet in our solar system that rotates clockwise.

● Suffering from claustrophobia could keep you up at night. It's the fear of being [illegible]

● The Statue of Liberty was originally a veiled Arab woman called 'Egypt: Bringing Light to Asia' and was designed to stand at the mouth of the newly opened Suez Canal. When [illegible] pulled funding the project went bankrupt, French sculptor Frederic Bartholdi revised his design and offered 'Liberty Enlightening the World' to America.

● Computer programmer Ray Tomlinson sent the world's first e-mail over the ARPAnet — the predecessor of the Internet — in 1971.

● The United States Constitution mentions only one crime: treason.

● Chicago has the world's only drive-through post office.

● Every year, nearly three [illegible]

What is the 'spin' about Venus?
Lady Liberty wore a veil?
IA
left-handed people
oducts
right-
Nonsense
from the fact that it
seems.'
Mary, a thirty-
circus elephant,
was hanged
for murder in
Erwin, Tenn.
on Sept. 13,
1916.
Jell-O was a flop!
• Starbucks, the coffee-house chain, took its name from a character in Herman 's classic novel, Moby Dick.
• The only city in the United States named 'Beach' is located in North Dakota.
• The hyoid bone, located in the throat, is the only free-standing bone in the human body.
• The American opossum gestation period of any mammal — just twelve to thirteen days after conception.
• The longest gestation period is the twenty-month
of the Asiatic elephant.
paper was invented by the Chinese.
• Women blink twice as frequently as do men.
• Before hitting it big in , Rod Stewart made his living as a grave digger.
• Jell-O
1899 and was
flop. The owner tried to unload the formula for
decided to keep selling it. The dessert soon caught on and is now one of the best-known brands in the world.
• Clarence 'Bob' Birdseye
for frozen vegetables while living in Labrador in the early 1900s. He stored cabbage in a barrel where ice kept it fresh until he wanted to eat it.
• Ninety percent
that
on the Earth have gone

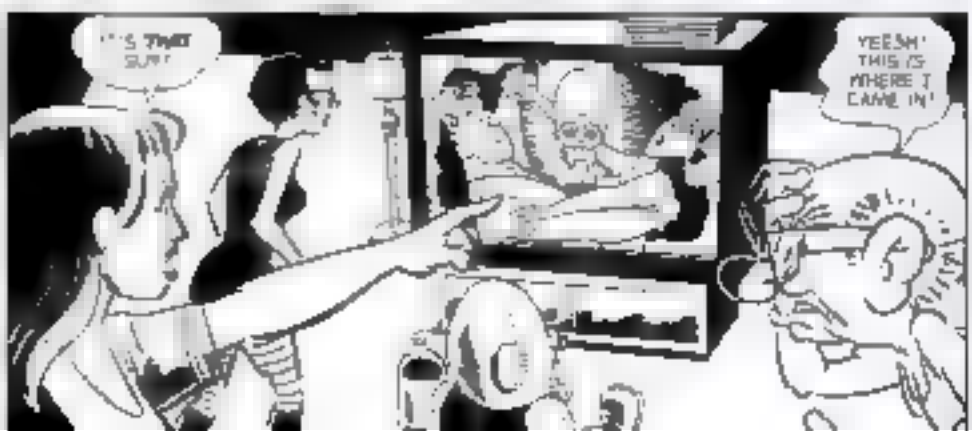
MATTHEW DAEMON
CHORD OF CHAOS
BY MIKE COLLINS
PART 2 COLOR

ALIEN BABY
DOESN'T THIS KING ANY BELLS?
REMINDS ME OF A TROLL DOLL WITH ITS HAIR PULLED OUT!

ENOUGH OF THIS! I SHOULD BE WITH MY BEST FRIEND, MURRAY

YOU'RE JUST IN TIME! THE 'DANCING IRON CHEF BATCHELORS' SHOW IS ON

WAIT! YOUR DRAWING! NOW I RECOGNIZE IT!
I KNEW IT WOULD COME TO YA


IT'S THAT GUY!
YEESH! THIS IS WHERE I CAME IN!

SPYCAT
CREATED BY JACK RIGEL
KA-BLAMM!
IZZA!
CONTINUED NEXT WEEK
UH-OH! THE INSECTURGENCY!!
THE NEW ADVENTURES OF BAT BOY
CHEMISTRY LAB
EEE!
BAT BOY!
EEE!!
BOOM!
I can't believe you're really HERE! Why didn't you tell me you were coming?
SILVERIA
Oh, uhh Bat Boy this is my BOYFRIEND, Gary
How long are you with us?
WEST VIRG

WEIRD PICTURE SEARCH

CAN you find 10 bread loaves hidden in this illustration by renowned artist Sergio Aragonés? Check next week's issue for the answer key!

EX-CASINO WORKER REVEALS SECRETS

LAS VEGAS, Nevada - A fast-talking ex-casino worker is about to "blow the lid off" of the gaming industry after being fired from a large, well-known casino for gambling too much. Here in an exclusive interview Bob DeLeon reveals inside secrets that casinos everywhere have kept hidden from the general public.

"I'm tired of seeing casinos rip-off hard working people while getting richer and richer at the player's expense" fumed Mr. DeLeon. "So I decided to go public and reveal all the inside secrets that I have learned over the years as a slot machine technician. I have spent countless hours working and playing on these one-armed bandits and I know what makes them tick."

Slot - System Helps Gamblers Win Jackpots Again & Again

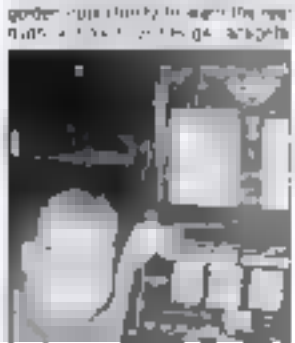
The 58 year old father of 4 children was laid off from his job of 20 years after he started winning "too many jackpots". Casino executives didn't like Mr. DeLeon playing the slot machines he built so well without every time he played "I was winning more money in a week than I made in a whole entire year" said DeLeon "and they knew I had figured out the secrets behind their money-making machines."

In retaliation the casino bosses had him fired "supposedly" because they said business was slow. That was over 2 years ago and since then Mr. DeLeon has created a book filled with all his secret knowledge. Now he is going public with his inside information and that has casino owners worried about their precious slot machines.

"Bob used to work for the giant slot and he knows all there is to know about these machines" Barry Silverthorn a spokesman for the Desert Rose Casino told the Capital News recently. "If this information gets out I'm afraid the gaming industry is going to lose an awful lot of money as a result."

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT To Readers of this Publication

Now for a limited time only Bob DeLeon is making his book "SLOT SECRETS Casinos Don't Want You To Know" available to readers of this publication. "For right here for the first time ever you have the golden opportunity to learn the real truth about how slot machines work and how to beat them at their own game" DeLeon explained.



playing slot machines. Here's what Mr. DeLeon had to say about his incredible Slot Secrets:

"I have come up with the best Slot Systems in the country. I know it, casino owners know it and gaming officials all over the nation know it. And there's little they can do about it other than try to outlaw work by these players. I can explain their secrets and can prove to the American public that when the rules built behind casinos and their slot machines" "No Slot Machines"

"After 20 years of working on these one-armed bandits and by reading every manual I could get my hands on I figured out how they work and when a different winning slot machine system that might work for several months started popping up here and there I knew I had to do something. I gave them a try, and I found that I could win many jackpots. Then word began to spread and I realized that I had to do something quick before the casinos caught on. My unique system will soon prove you how to win on any slot machine that now pays you back."

The Guaranteed Secret of Winning

"You can count on my Secret Slot Systems because I know how slot machines work. I have worked on many of them myself. I know how they are programmed and how to beat them at their own game. My unique system will soon prove you how to win on any slot machine that now pays you back."

"You can bet

Top secret base all but shut down due

ROSWE

B

to visit from spirit of dead space alien!

LL HAUNTED
Y ET GHOST!

ROSWELL, N.M.— "Since that thing returned, it's been one terrifying encounter after another," said Col. Mike Andrews. "Most of our test pilots are requesting transfers and the civilian contractors are refusing to come to work."

'That thing,' according to Col Andrews is the ghost of an ET who died sixty years ago.

As readers of Weekly World News are aware, in the summer of 1947 a UFO crashed northwest of Roswell, N.M. The military acted quickly to recover the wreckage — which was unlike anything these highly trained men had ever seen. Along with three small, otherworldly bodies recovered at the scene, it was flown to various government installations. Despite a military cover story that was concocted to explain away the event, witnesses insist that it was a flying saucer and that an autopsy on one of the spacemen was conducted at Roswell.

"They tried to tell us it was an American weather balloon," said Harold Lynch, a civilian day worker who was hired in from a neighboring town. "But I was there at the base and that was no earthly material. And those little fellas weren't no damned human."

No further visitations occurred in the decades following the crash. That changed as the sixty-year anniversary approached on the alien dissection.

"That saucer man is back," said Col. Andrews with a shudder, "though not in any way we ever anticipated.

"This time, he's a ghost!"

Described as short with an oversized head, the unearthly being floats from room to room, passing through walls and ceilings as if they weren't there. Work at the base has all but shut down as manpower has dwindled to a skeleton crew.

CONTINUED ON THE ALIEN'S RETURN!

ROSWELL HAUNTED BY ET GHOST!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

though not everyone fears the eerie visitor.

"I don't think he means any harm," stated Gus Rolf, a midnight-shift cook. "In fact, he came in and helped me peel potatoes one night and sorta zigzagged out the door just before daylight. We tried to strike up a conversation, but he don't speak English and I don't speak Martian, or whatever lingo he was chirpin' in."

The ET specter has appeared dozens of times in recent weeks and no one — or no place — seems immune.

"I was strapped into the cockpit of an experimental aircraft when he appeared," said a [redacted] gun pilot who, understandably, [redacted] to remain anonymous. "I felt eyes glaring at the back of my head and, when I turned, I saw a bug-eyed little guy staring at me with a kind of lost, mournful look. I was so disoriented I hit the ejection [redacted]. Instead of the [redacted] switch. It's probably just as well. I'm not eager to go flying with spooks."

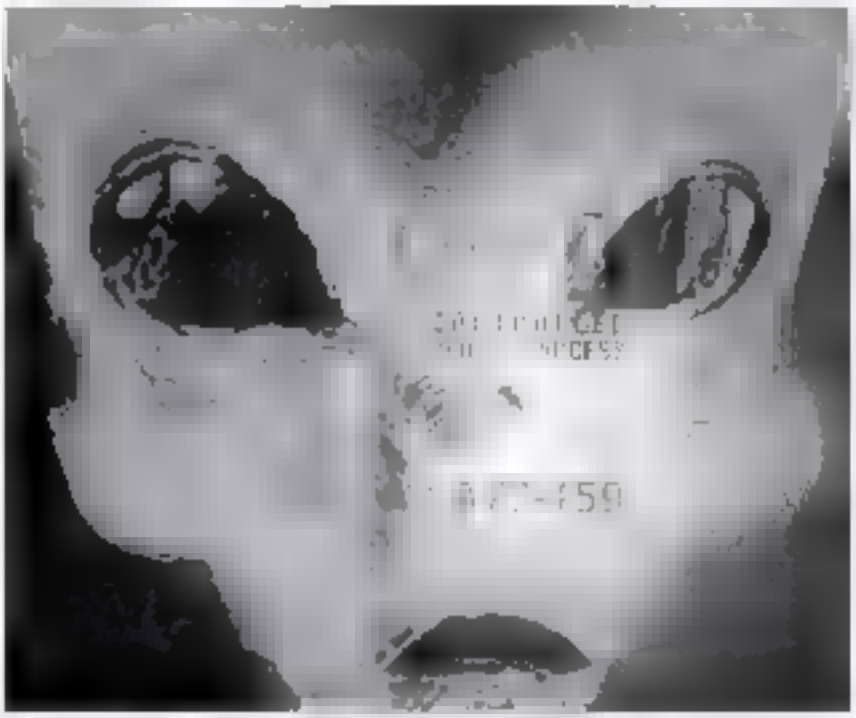
The prevailing theory is that the ET [redacted] continues to be angry about having been poked, prodded and cut open during the medical exam.

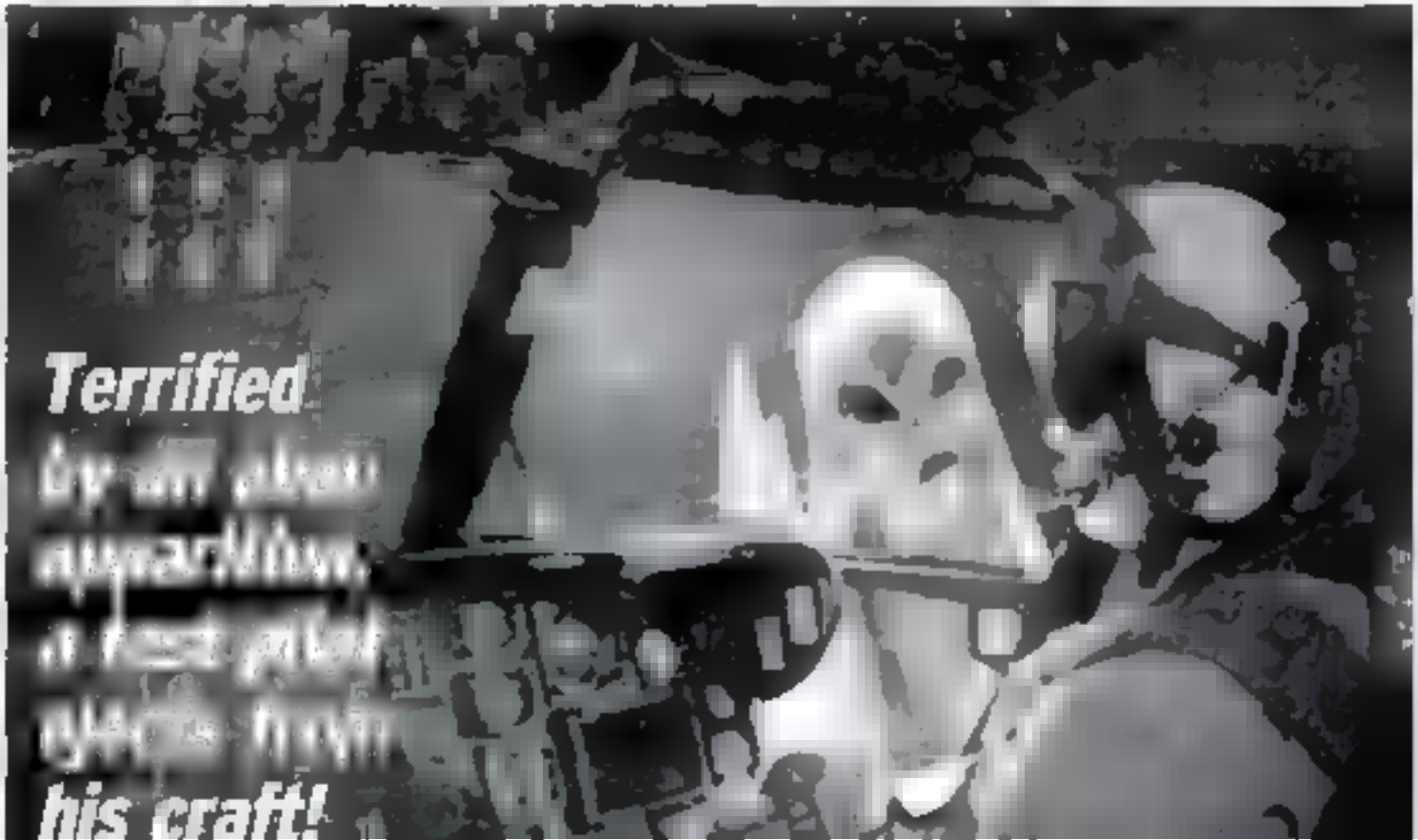
"He has returned now because the alignment of the planets is identical to the way it was when the saucer crashed," opined Walt Sheinstad, a UFO investigator. "I believe he's searching for the people who abused him. Like so many spirits, without closure he cannot return to his corner of the sky. He a proper alien afterlife. I believe he'll leave when the [redacted] people [redacted] positions."

"I [redacted]," said Col. [redacted] "Nobody think church rites will work on an ET, but I still may call in an exorcist. I don't [redacted] else to do. When I [redacted] to the federal government for help all they did was [redacted] driver's license to the creature. Apparently they misinterpreted our message that we had an 'alien problem.'"

Until a solution is found, the base remains relatively deserted.

"In every sense of the word, this place is a ghost town," [redacted] Col. [redacted].





GHOST OF FAMOUS SKEPTIC EXTREMELY EMBARRASSED!

HAMILTON, Maine – The late Richard Relleck, a skeptic famed for debunking ghost sightings, apologized today for personally haunting the Relleck country estate.

"I wish I could just disappear," said the specter of the humiliated investigator. "But the best I can do is become sort of lamely translucent."

Mr. Relleck had tried for weeks to debunk himself, dismissing his ghostly form as variations in air pressure, reflections of car headlights or smudges of dirt on the lenses of cameras.

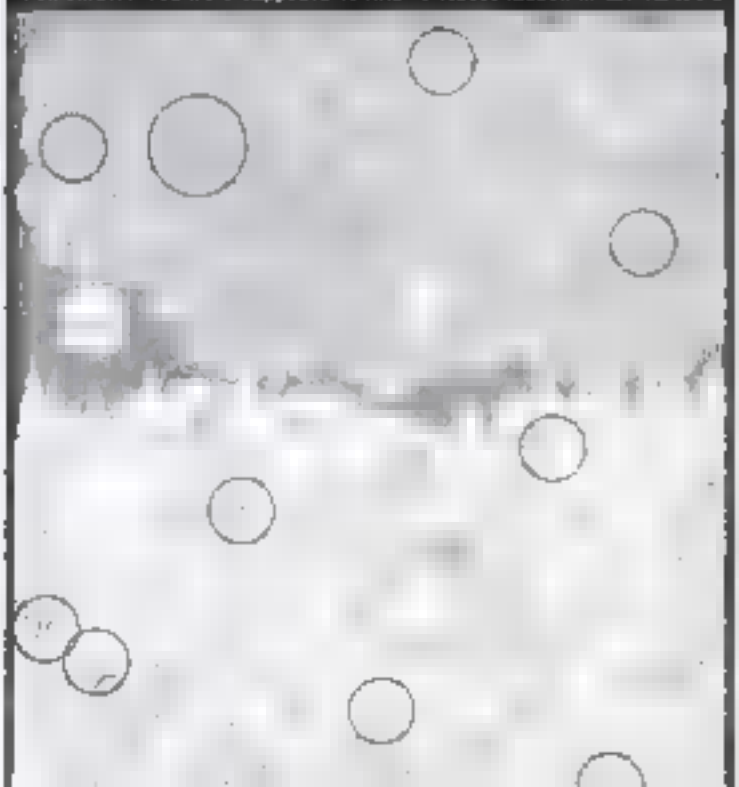
"I guess I'm real," Relleck half-sighed, half-moaned.

The estate of the skeptic has refused to offer a refund for his book, *Ghosts Are Unreal!*

However, Mr. Relleck will show up at séances and special book 'sighings' to discredit his own work, and otherwise live a life of relative paranormalcy.

LAST WEEK'S PICTURE SEARCH SOLUTION

Remember? You were supposed to find 10 hearts hidden in the cartoon.



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Latest UFO sightings

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1 Potion
8 Houses
15 Paper unit
16 Actress Susan
18 Dwarfish creature
19 Baseball great Cone
21 Two-door car
22 Utter in monotone
24 Jumped
25 Practical joke
27 Tougher
28 Female cat
31 Walking tamely
32 Iced tea additions
34 Restroom sign
35 Sacred image
37 Night club
40 Art —
42 Mourn for
44 Type of architecture
45 Ship's freight
47 Condensed and listed
48 Theme paper
50 River embankment
52 Polaris (2 wds)
55 Rolled up a flag
57 Perfectionist
58 Never ending
59 Acid
63 Made up for
64 Abandoned Catholics
66 Open areas
68 Chomped on
69 Mythical bird
70 Flirtatiously shy
72 Play part
73 Commandments count
74 Battery terminal (Abbr)
77 Type of quarterback
78 Simple, natural
80 Trample from cold
82 Avoid the issue
86 Ark builder
87 Rebuff an offer
88 Justice Sandra Day
90 Hounds for payment
91 Singer Nat
92 Diet fare
94 Tie knots
96 Old horse
99 Director Spike
100 Move a painting
103 Unsophisticated
104 Sailing boat
105 Baltimore birds
107 Ole saying
108 Actor Berry
110 Dorothy's dog
111 Franklin note
112 Everlasting
114 "Beware the — of March"
115 Thingamajig
117 Paradise
118 Skin opening
119 Followed closely
121 Root vegetable
123 Fashionable resort
124 Crumb
125 Beamed brightly
126 Mended socks
128 Looked searchingly
129 Anatomical pouch
130 Expression of wonder
133 Passes into law
136 Argue pro and con
140 Given shots beforehand
141 Tiny veggie
142 Mr. Lincoln
145 Washington note
146 Proceeded towards
148 Smelting waste
149 Bullfighter's word
151 Ole Egyptian ore
153 Broadcasts
154 Heated debate
156 Fund director
158 News bit
160 Put away for a rainy day
161 Bloodsuckers
164 Perform better
165 Skin suffix
166 Organic compound
167 Trousers
169 Circle segment
170 Interest unit
172 Tempests
174 Public displeasure
176 "Paint Your Wagon" star
177 Card game
178 Fishing type (2 wds)
179 Per
181 "Salt is to — —"
182 Overjoyed
184 "Austin Powers" [illegible]
187 Surpasses
190 Unnecessary
192 — Ann
194 Sub for sea (Abbr)
195 Historic age
197 Negative vote
198 "— — Were A Rich [illegible]
201 Ceased
203 Court flatterers
208 On hand
209 Up to date
211 Green veggie
213 Newsman Sam
215 Inventor Thomas
216 Pasta paste
217 Red fruit
219 Antagonist overboard
220 Family tie
223 Sacred writing
225 Pure detector
226 Chopped like sheep
229 Encounter
230 Very close
231 Calls for reserves
232 Nick off
233 Golf stick
234 Camera stand
237 Earth's planet
241 State representatives
245 Fall — Wisconsin
248 Winter hats (abbr)
249 One vowed against the enemy
250 Dextrose and fructose
251 Pulled upward
252 Litigator
253 Play starts
254 Indian tent
255 Metallic rocks
256 Understood
257 Rejuvenated

DOWN

1 Family head
2 Goes with cottage and glycine
3 USA [illegible]
4 Suit maker
5 Ballgame division
6 Director Preminger
7 Midday
8 Metal fastener
9 Arizona Indian
10 Makes right
11 Narrow shelves
12 Job holder
13 Upcomotion
14 Golfer's game
15 Ichthi test
17 Direction (Abbr)
18 Precious jewel
20 Wisdom
21 Step in (2 wds)
23 An increase in intensity
24 Printed material
26 Prepare to play
27 Automaker Ford
29 Heavy sword
30 Actor Kinnear
31 Slowdown
33 Cut apart
34 Secure a vessel
36 Gave a hoot
38 Future flowers
39 Knocks sharply
41 Secret stash
43 Mexican money
44 Cleveland athletes
46 Swatch position
47 Deceive
48 Cubed
49 Saucer plops
51 Preposition for the term
53 Greek particles
54 Talking with
56 The — Mountains
58 Dispatch
60 Roadside structure
61 Fruit pits
62 Oven cook
64 Marsh —
65 Busy and confused
67 Baseball (3 wds)
68 Woomp covering
69 Sky dweller
70 NBC show
71 Used a garden tool
72 Catch some rays
73 Burned with steam
74 Lacquer hard
75 Santa's helpers
76 Farm building
79 Rant
80 Tinker bauble
81 Take the bus
83 Tennyson and Byron
87 Carnation
100 Engine parts
101 Clay of tennis
102 On the spot
103 Used spuds
106 Author Ferber
108 Take back purchase
111 Mister, in Germany
113 Armageddon
116 Stained like wood
120 [illegible]
122 [illegible]
125 [illegible] up
127 [illegible]
128 Steel case
131 Chalk remover
132 Imitated
135 Luxury auto (TM)
134 Casualties
135 Terminates party
137 Closet monster
138 Nautical direction
139 Less difficult
140 Deviate
141 Pick feathers
142 Winter Games
143 Algerian island
144 Blow like a volcano
145 Second legal case
147 Brief respite
148 Blueprint particular
150 Norwegian city
152 Distant
153 Organized grp
155 Row of chairs
157 Shipping weights
159 Sprouters
162 Make coffee
163 Zenith
165 Pepper covers
167 Abilities
168 Highschooler
169 Average grade
170 Stock abbr.
171 Track animals
173 Play parts
175 Legislative meeting
in place of another
180 Valentine shape
183 Sports
185 Actor Pitt
186 Jeans brand
188 Wear away
189 British noble
191 Ruling families
193 Heavily populated
196 Blue gemstone
199 Finish
200 Cave or bay
202 Back and forth (Hyph)
203 Obtain
204 Actor Greene
205 Tizzy
206 Against
207 Human spirits
208 After mountain or auction
210 Film manager
211 Gag
212 Employ
214 Affirms
216 Beet variety, Swiss —
221 Cracker appetizer
222 Salem locale
224 La — Sierra
226 Loves deeply
227 Region of England
235 A Beatle
236 Sandwich cookie
238 Soccer star
239 Trussed up
240 Naval vessel title
242 Almond or pecan
243 After teen or golden
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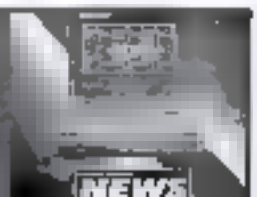

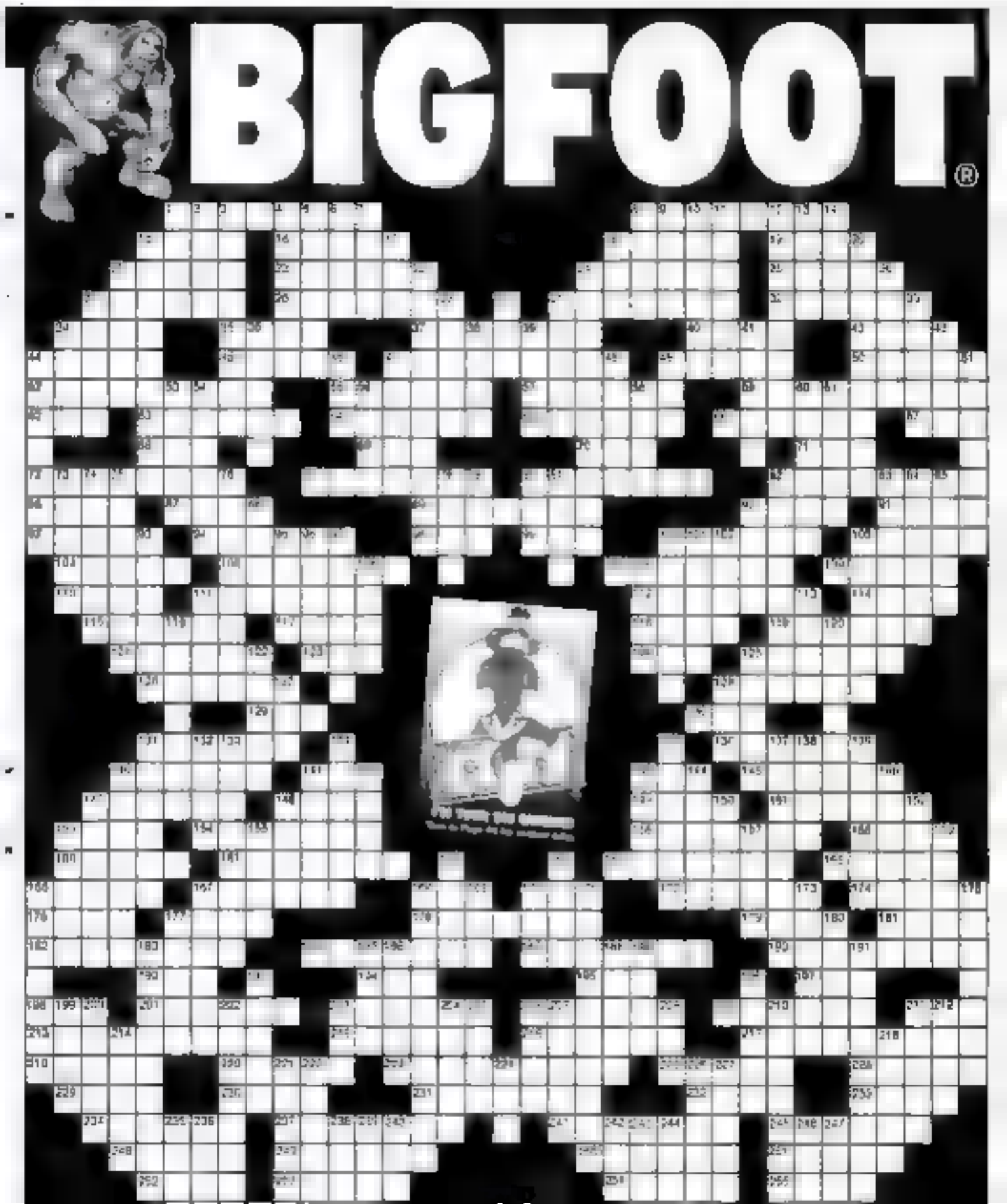
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OUT OF THIS WORD SEARCH!

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A W N F O L V H Q O B B F X O S M M Y A O L A E
A S O Y W V B X Z C Y G X Q S U F N P O O U F R
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W M P D F O 1 K C J E D P W A K G H R G S N A P
Q R N N Z Y N Z S J K P Z F L W M N H P W A H F
B U R H S Q H H H J H H U V P G Y H A S B Q H Q
S H Q B K N E Y M L E M C S X E U I L R P N W X
K X J R N M J Z Z I L M U J E Y I L G Q T X N S
W E Y Y R J X U L M L L S G N T Z L J Q T S U W
X X S F R O Y N D B A Z A Q U P O J P C G B T J
O F D O Y E J A K J L X N B O E A S O U M P F D
B L H G U A A H K D O G L I Z O D W S P R H I J
Y E X C K C O L G C A G H T S F D F X M H Z X O

HOW TO PLAY

Look up, down, backward, forward and sideways – in all directions – to find all the 'TOP [redacted] words [redacted] topics n the list below.

BIRTHDAY
BUSN
CAT
COLD
COLLAR
DAY
DOG
DYD
EIGHTH
FISH
HELL
INFERNO
LIE
PEOPLE
PET
PICTURES
PUNCH LIST
REAL
ROADS
SHOCKER
SHRUB
SNAP
STRANGE
SUPERNATURAL
UNDERCOVER
UNEXPLAINED
WHITE
WINCHESTER
ZOMBIES

Weekly World Humor

When their favorite waiter died, a few of the diner's regulars decided to try and contact him through a medium.

"In order to communicate with the dead," the medium [illegible] those gathered [illegible] the table, "we must all hold hands and mutter his name as one."

Sitting at the round table, the [illegible] hands, and when [illegible] medium counted to three, the men said quietly and reverently, "Moe Iskowitz."

There was nothing but silence, and after several minutes, they tried again. Once again the [illegible] to show. Finally, after the third "Moe Iskowitz," the [illegible] man appeared as a spectral image floating above them.

"Moe," said one of the men, "it's good to see you, [illegible] why [illegible] we have to call you t[illegible] times?"

The ectoplasmic [illegible] shrugged. "This isn't [illegible] table!"

Asked whether he thought ignorance and apathy [illegible] the greatest problems facing the world today, the student answered, "I don't know and I don't care."

The Red State student was asked to report on the rabbits he was raising.

"They just gave birth," bunnies are all devoted Republicans."

"That's good," the teacher replied.

Five days later, the student was asked to report again on the rabbits.

"The newborn bunnies are doing well," he said, "and they are now Democrats."

The teacher frowned. "Five days ago you said they were Republicans."

"Yes, [illegible]r," said the boy. "However, now their eyes are open."

The president of the Purebred Dog [illegible]y was touring a breeder's estate when she encountered a little boy walking a dog.

"Do you know who I am?" [illegible] asked [illegible] her.

"Yes, ma'am. You're the president of the [illegible] Dog Society."

"Very good. And do you know how big the club is?"

The boy thought for a moment. "Yes, ma'am. Almost

"This is terrible! Said one peasant to another. "I hear the dictator is going to charge us money every time we use our thumbs."

"That is horrible!"

"And if we don't pay, he's going to kill us!"

"We must revolt," said the other peasant. "After all, who ever heard of using thumb tax to hang people?"

The woman frowned. "Young man, we have thousands of members. How could they fit in a space like that?"

"I don't know," said the boy, "but my father is six [illegible] tall and he's always saying, 'I've had the [illegible] Dog Society up to here!'"

[illegible] Anne remained friendly after their divorce. Six months later, Anne said, "Bob – I've been dating the judge who handled our divorce, and now he wants to marry me. [illegible] do you think?"

"I think," said Bob, "[illegible] wasn't listening to the [illegible]"

[illegible] walked in the door so elated he could barely speak.

"Honey, guess what? I came the closest I've ever [illegible] to bowling a perfect three-hundred game!"

"Really?" she said. "What'd you get?"

He replied, "Thirty!"

Young Ted [illegible] walking along the deserted [illegible] when [illegible] heard a cry [illegible] help. Spotting a capsized boat in [illegible] water with a man flailing his arms nearby, he [illegible] the pier, threw another rowboat in the water, [illegible] rushed toward the helpless figure.

After pulling him in, Ted [illegible] rowing back to [illegible]. When the panting man could finally speak, he said, "Young boy, I'm Mayor Jerry Golden, [illegible] I'm one of the most powerful men in town. For saving my [illegible] I want to get [illegible] something – anything you want."

The boy thought for a moment, then said, "I'd like a nice funeral, if you please."

"A funeral?" gasped the politician. "You can't be more than twelve years [illegible] Why are you thinking about dying?"

"Because when my [illegible] [illegible] out I saved a [illegible] from drowning, he's gonna kill me."

The American chef [illegible] in Spain visiting Spanish restaurants.

"How do dishes in America compare to the ones over here?" asked a Spanish cook.

The American replied, "If you drop them, they break just as

Q: What did the Native American say when the mushroom cloud rose above the desert?

A: "[illegible]

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT WWN STORIES? TEST YOURSELF

F[illegible] YEARS, faithful readers of *Weekly World News* have been kept [illegible] to date on the most extraordinary events on Earth – and off. However, reading about the facts is one thing. Retaining them is another. Let's see how much you remember about our remarkable stories!

1. Astronomers at the giant Arecibo [illegible] telescope have [illegible] what [illegible] at the center of [illegible] Milky Way galaxy?

a) Rubber.
b) Caramel.
c) A lower-fat galaxy.
d) Petroleum.

2. A mysterious gulag is home [illegible] victims of the Chernobyl [illegible]er who, because of the [illegible]on, all have:

a) One eye.
b) Telekinetic powers.
c) Green skin.
d) Two heads.

3. *Weekly World News* recently figured in the plot of what hit TV show?

a) Lost.
b) Supernatural.
c) Grey's Anatomy.
d) The Office.

4. A turf war is being waged in Fontana, Calif., between:

a) Motorcycle gangs.
b) Dogs and cats.
c) Senior citizens.
d) Unicycle [illegible]

5. Steven Mihn is a most [illegible] usual Cyclops who:

a) Wearers large contact lens.
b) Has two eyes.
c) Has one lazy eye.
d) Has an eye in [illegible] back of [illegible] head.

6. Among his future [illegible] tions, [illegible] [illegible] that corn will inexplicably [illegible] over the [illegible]ave of what famous athlete?

a) Knute Rockne
b) Ty Cobb
c) Jesse Owens
d) Wilt Chamberlain

7. A beautician at Bianca's Beauty Parlor incapacitated twenty-nine-year-old robber Jesse Finster using:

a) Hair spray.
b) Scissors.
c) A wet towel.
d) Curling irons.

8. Highschooler Cleo Baudenbacher kept failing, and was condemned to repeat, which class?

a) Gym.
b) [illegible] education.
c) Music.
d) History.

9. An intriguing form of jujitsu was created by which religious practitioners?

a) Catholic priests.
b) Buddhist monks.
c) Orthodox Jews.
d) Swamis.

10. A new Oklahoma law against illegal parking requires that the offending cars be:

a) Towed.
b) Auctioned.
c) Demolished.
d) Keyed.

ANSWERS

1 b) It was caused by the interaction between amino acids and carbonyl sugar, softened by the heat of a nearby supernova.

2 a) They were imprisoned by scientists who hoped the disaster gave them super powers.

3 b)

4 b) They're called the Fontana Figure Eights and the San Bernardino Velocipede Raptors.

5 b) It was caused by a recessive bi-ocular cell in his genetic makeup.

6 b) People entered the cemetery and made a profit selling "corn on the Cobb" to Yankees fans.

7 a) She sprayed so much that his body became paralyzed.

8 d)

9 c) It's called Jew-Jitsu.

10 d) The officers carry out the sentence themselves.

PEOPLE ARE STRANGE

Weekly World News has scoured the world - to uncover the most outrageous things that people are doing, have attempted to do, or actually did.

LOS ANGELES, Calif.
After years of riding bulls and horses, bored rodeo veteran Sean Gibson [redacted] he was going to strap a [redacted] a great white shark and ride it for as long as possible. However, his cowboy friends convinced him that the plan was insane, claiming that the challenge wasn't surviving the ride but the dismount.

HELENA, Mont.
After twenty years, Debra [redacted] was sick of having her [redacted] name mocked by lascivious men. She went to the Helena courthouse and legally changed her name to 'Debbouse Ziere.'

JEFFERSON, Mo.
Unable to afford building materials, unemployed fifty-year-old carpenter Abe Whiteman spent weeks robbing nearby graves for materials to improve his home. He used sturdy backbones instead of coffins and built the first lumber extension. When arrested, he said he was, "Simply recycling."

WARWICK, R.I.
Jill Peterson was so repulsed by flying insects that she collected hundreds of spiders to cover her apartment with webs. Although her home became blissfully empty of insects, it also became empty of others. [redacted] died after becoming ensnared in her kitchen.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla.
After a number of Walter Jenkins' friends [redacted] him for the secret of [redacted] youthful appearance, the sixty-year-old said it was due to homemade ink, which was made from crushed berries and ancient [redacted] He claimed that, for years, he had been benefiting from the permeating effects of his 'fountain pen of youth.'

SALT LAKE [redacted], Utah
Each night before getting in the bathtub, five-year-old Willie Palmer fastens a small paper [redacted] in his upper lip, [redacted] to his [redacted] [redacted] to [redacted] this safety measure [redacted] learning about 'nose art' in Sunday school.

Horse Sense

Even a chicken attraction, he's sure the nation's leading tobacco expert

Keep your chin up!

Dear Mr. Horse: Why are pull-ups tougher than chin-ups?

— Ryan Lewis, Trenton, N.J.

Dear Ryan: Naturally I have no first-hoof experience with such exercises, given my anatomy, but I believe that under-handed chin-ups are easier because they primarily use the biceps. Biceps are denser and stronger than triceps, which are the muscles most relied upon during over-handed pull-ups.

In addition, more muscles seem to come into play during pull-ups, such as the deltoids, which are the shoulder muscles. Since pull-ups [illegible] more muscle groups, they're more challenging for the body.

Extra tasty!

Dear Mr. Horse: Someone told me there are actually five different tastes instead of four. Is that true?

— Ned Bailey, Hartford, Conn.

Dear Ned: Everyone knows about salty, sour, bitter and sweet. However, there is a fifth type of taste called 'umami,' which means [illegible] in Japanese. It's produced by the stimulants commonly found in aged and fermented foods like parmesan and Roquefort cheese, as well as fish and soy sauce.

There are also many unfermented foods like walnuts, broccoli, tomatoes, grapes and mushrooms that have the umami taste. Unfortunately, I've never had the pleasure of experiencing it, since a horse diet doesn't usually include those foods.

Isn't all fat bad?

Dear Mr. Horse: What do nutritionists mean when they refer to 'good' fats?

— Larry Joseph, San Diego, Calif.

Dear Larry: People need two kinds of fatty acids to achieve optimum health. Omega-3 and Omega-6. These aid in the formation of cell membranes, in hormone production and in the processing of cholesterol (preventing arteries from becoming clogged).

Good fat also refers to fat that hasn't been damaged by heat or processing — that is, the kind of fat found in whole, natural foods such as green, leafy vegetables, flax seeds, soybeans, nuts and seeds.

The so-called 'bad' fats are saturated fats and trans-fatty acids, both of which raise cholesterol and are found in junk foods such as hot dogs and pizza.

MONKEY BUSINESS

AFTER leaving the circus to make a better life for himself, Sammy the Chatting Chimp started his own exotic pet business and made a fortune. Now he wants to share the many facts and secrets he's learned.

THE BEST ADVICE THIS SIDE OF [illegible]

Worthless contract?

Dear Mr. Chimp: How valid are oral contracts as opposed to written contracts?

– Richard Hairston, Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Richard: Oral contracts are sometimes necessary because it's not always convenient to write out agreements – for example, between an unmarried couple who made financial promises to each other, or people who came up with an idea over lunch and agreed to share the profits fifty-fifty.

Things are often 'said' or 'understood' or 'promised' without the details being spelled out. In most states, oral contracts are nearly as valid – and binding [illegible] with oral contracts during lawsuits since there's no [illegible] trail to prove what was agreed to. It comes down to one person's word against another's, and the jury has to decide.

Of course, I faced a much different problem when I first went into business. I tried making oral contracts for bananas and grub deals, but none of the monkeys knew what I was saying.

Copyright my idea?

Dear Mr. Chimp: I just came up with an idea for a movie. Should I get it copyrighted before sending it to a studio?

– Larry Stewart, Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Larry: Legally, a work is automatically copyrighted once [illegible] registering it or sending a copy to yourself is not really necessary.

That said, as I was explaining above about how the terms of [illegible] contracts [illegible] difficult to [illegible], [illegible] you have that it work [illegible] – such as extra copies or drafts sent to friends and agents, whether online or in the mail – will help if you ever feel you've been ripped off.

Of course, before you send your brainchild [illegible] Hollywood, keep [illegible] mind that you can't copyright [illegible] only the expression [illegible] This is [illegible] reason studios and publishers don't like to [illegible] at scripts or manuscripts that don't come from agents. Everyone thinks they have the greatest idea since the advent of democracy

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WOOMER NEEDS funds to repair and keep home. Send to: Funds, [illegible] Box 921, Craig, AK 99921. God bless you all.

[illegible]

ALBAN BRIDES! Worldwide Info $1.00. [illegible] Thousand Oaks, CA [illegible]

[illegible]

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PERSONAL SERVICES

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STAR TRICKS

By BOB MICHAEL

HOUSTON, Texas — NASA has named its first mime in space. Jacques Tatitov, who will perform in the vacuum outside the International Space Station.

The mime has been characteristically tight-lipped about his space routine, which is rumored to include exercises such as Walking Against the Solar Flare, Pushing the Envelope and Flavored Thermostabilized Pudding Ration.

"Such a mission has always been my dream," Tatitov announced in an e-mail from the Johnson Space Center. "The ultimate aim of mime is to perform in the perfect silence of space."

NASA, too, has looked forward to the mime-in-orbit program for years — and not just as a spectacular entertainment.

"There's an enormous opportunity here for cutting costs," said mission director Ben Kellock. "Tatitov won't need a radio — he communicates brilliantly without words. And during his spacewalk, he'll be pulling himself along an invisible tether which means we won't have to spring for an umbilicus or rocket pack."

The mime's titanium-dioxide lace pearl will reflect

space, and the skintight, oversized white pressure suit will feature a suspender-mounted life-support pack and a jaunty space beret. Tatton said he is concerned that the suit — which has been stripped down to allow flexibility — will be vulnerable to micro-meteroid impact.

"For most of my performance, I shall be trapped in an invisible box, which should afford some protection," he said. "Besides — I'm used to being

Tony & Cleo's L-O-V-E L-I-N-K-S

WOMEN

IL 204-630 Venezuelan Goddess Exotic super model brown with 22" of brunette tresses 5'4" 20[illegible] 34B waist 25 30 enjoyed SWM without physical limits dedicated for LTR 5 10 age open No Arabs Photo EASE

NV 204-640 Las Vegas Fiesta beauty 40 gorgeous Petite Eyes Lips model actress dancer art lies enjoys A water Sweet successful generous shy soul 35-60 years old for relationship

CA 204-641 WWF 50s attractive Seeking flexible caring New Age gentleman for together Are you interested? No e-mails Photo/phone

PHILIPPINES 204-642 Loving caring 27 cute young lady 5'2" 115 lbs A computer programmer graduate seeks simple Is Looking for Age Sincere Charming Well non-smoker drug free No smoker please

GERMANY 204-643 Romantic single Black American lady speaks Fluent French Just where one wandering to USA ISO mighty red-edge-minded bl single man professional Frenchman from France 45-55 years old Non smoker New York City area Photo please

WA 204-644 WWF full figure 50 5'6" affectionate honest non-smoker/drinker likes the outdoors doing things together or cooking sewing Seeking reciprocating man 42-55

ONTARIO 204-645 I'm a very beautiful romantic lady Black lady very honest caring reliable loving understanding easygoing and very hard working Light to medium build between 30-120 years old who wants real love and care You will never regret having me as your love

PA 204-646 Pretty middle age sweet personality hi[illegible] of one in my Photo a name place[illegible] age 39 age range Nice to meet a real businessman with common interests such as home loving good personality Hope healthy and honorable intentions Take a shot at life the man who owns my heart if you w[illegible] musical activities and get

MS 204-647 Attractive [illegible] Mississippi gentleman [illegible] son family in house [illegible] Christian Hispanic Must be affectionate and kind Photo please

TN 204-648 SWF petite very attractive refined educated active fun loving natural interests Non-smoker Seeks honest sincere active educated SWM to share time and possibly a LTR Photo please

IN 204-649 Attractive Black widow 49 5'4" 190 lbs loves all active men 44-70 who like keep going for movies anything fun Must have a good sense of humor See my photo at www.lonestarbbw people meet com My user name is Con Con Send your photo in letter I'm waiting

SC 204-650 Sweet lady White shy gentle trustworthy attractive non-smoker likes dancing Seeking kind non-drug use understanding financially secure Divorce husband 70 plus Slight handicap Recent photo

MEN

IL 204-545 Sweet single senior Kind hearted educated and [illegible] I am not [illegible] am not hungry either Speak of further Traveled around the world once and have seen everything twice Seeks lady 25-60 must be clean pretty non smoker intelligent and ready for a lifetime relationship Any nationality no inhibitions

NJ 204-600 Romantic outdoor [illegible] Agricultural person retired love to travel looking for LTR Need someone to enjoy life with Love just about anything with the right person Let me spoil you Photo Desire

TN 204-601 Wealthy Army retired white male age 54 6' 190 lbs light blue eyes romantic hair another No drugs or alcohol Would like to meet a lady with good morals Age up to 50 years who would like to be spoiled and pampered Photo

WA 204-602 SWM 46 homeowner, financially secure smoker handsome caring I am seeking a SBF 30-46 answer for a LTR possible marriage Seeking an honest woman to live with A photo will get through Serious inquiries only

USA 204-603 SBM 52 5'8" fun companion single lonely wealthy homeowner in Pennsylvania to East Coast ISO a lady U & bum for LTR marriage Age/race unimportant Photo/phone

NY 204-604 Correctional institute inmate Latin, 6yrs/ athletic handsome male age 37 6'tall tall black hair brown eyes in search of a good friendly secure woman age/race unimportant Lonely write me God bless you

WA 204-605 SWM, young 62, brown hair/blue eyes, 5'8" slim, college graduate, secure financial non-smoker/drinker, never married Enjoys music reading, outdoors gardening Romantic ISO loyal pleasant, personable quality lady height/weight proportionate who enjoys flowers sightseeing, mountains beach walking Prefer western half U S

MN 204-606 Child, lonely, reading female companionship I'm looking for a marriage-minded female with a heart loving heart responsibly genuine No smoking no drugs healthy life style Willing to have Package over Photo/phone Me 5ft, 5'11" 175 lbs black hair/eyes, light complexion no smoking no drugs, loyal Home owner in Florida employed temporarily in Minnesota

NJ 204-607 Nice simple guy 38, 6', 215 lbs Seeks to meet women for casual dating 25-35 Write and tell me about you NJ NY PA

CA 204-608 Relocatable SW transplant 41 6'1" 180 lbs, feminine pretty passable outgoing Seventh grade education minimum wage occupation on SSI Don't drive ISO living together LTR friendship companionship and understanding female Maybe do things together shopping, tea markets, whatever Photo for females

IL 204-609 Correctional institute inmate SM, lonely, seeking SF to relationship friendship Open-minded sincere, romantic type Interests outdoors sports, politics, history, sculpture, music Building a friendship as a marathon

USA 204-610 Native American 39, loving easygoing spiritual ISO an attractive woman caring loving Native American origin 5'4 30 wt medium volume Philippines Mindoro or abroad

HOW TO...

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WEEKLY WORLD NEWS CLASSIC

MISS ADVENTURE

by DREW SULLIVAN

TEANECK, N.J. — Friends, relatives and creditors [redacted] *Weekly World News* as [redacted] Adventure.

[redacted] Gayest American Hero, responded with joy yesterday to word that Andrews — the [redacted] occupant of a [redacted]er basket hitched to a runaway balloon — has turned up alive and well, albeit severely underdressed, in his home town of Teaneck.

How he got there, though, was as astonishing as any of his adventures to date.

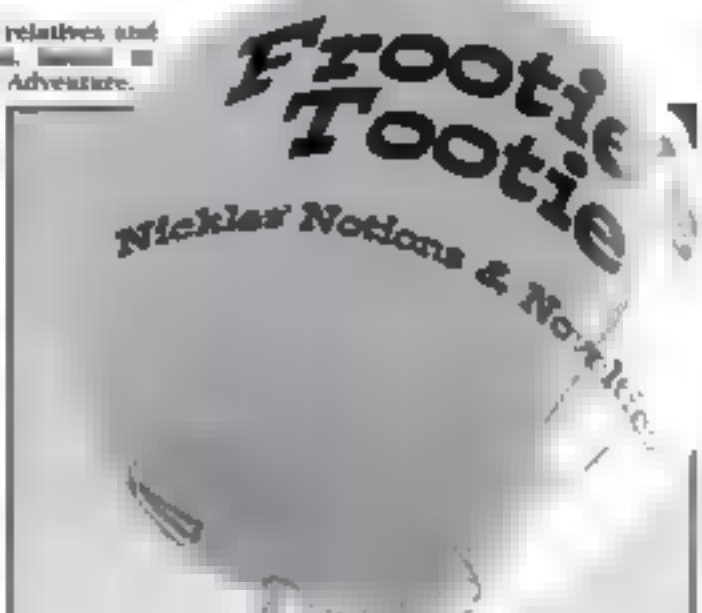
Andrews and his companion, Manny 'Dee Dee' Romano, had entered a coast to coast balloon race under the sponsorship of Fred "Frootie" Nickles, owner of Nickles' Novelties & Notions. The balloon copied the design of the classic whoopee cushion made famous by Nickles' company — "Frootie's Tootie." But the air bladder of the balloon was sabotaged by the foul fiend known as the Masked Marble and took off on an uncontrolled flight.

Devastated by what he took to be Andrews' untimely death, Romano established Miss Adventure Builder Relief Fund, named for his friend and the conveyance that carried him to the great beyond.

"What Dee Dee and the rest of the world didn't know," Andrews later revealed, "was that the rapidly deflating Tootie shot into the sky and accidentally hooked itself on the back of a passing jet. Within hours I was over the coast of Africa. Bruised and battered as I frantically clutched my basket and tried to keep from being sucked — a first for me — into the jet's powerful jetbelt."

Just as it dawned on Andrews that he'd be dragged to his death when the aircraft landed ("Not a term of the word that excites me!") he found a compartment in the basket floor. Inside was a deck of cards ("Dee Dee must have thought we'd be bored on the long flight") and a couple of parachutes. Within minutes, Andrews — cards in hand and wearing nothing but a tags hastily improvised from the second parachute — floated toward the untamed jungles of darkest Africa — where he promptly knocked himself out on a large rock.

"That [redacted] a first," he said. "But when I recovered consciousness, I found something I hadn't expected. A monkey playing solitaire on my chest. What's more, he was cheating — so naturally I burned him ("Service"



Andrews realized that if he were going to keep Chester as a companion, he'd have to disciplone him. Grimly determined, he put the [redacted] creature over his lap and [redacted] its behind.

"Unfortunately, the perverse little primate totally enjoyed it — so much so that every night, before we settled down for a well-earned rest, I had to spank the monkey. Some nights I had to spank it twice!"

All the long, torrid days passed, Andrews and Chester wandered further and further into the wild jungle.

"I lived on fruits and nuts — which came to think of it, was pretty much the way I lived back at Teaneck," Andrews said. "One morning, I came face to face with a ferocious lion. I leapt to the nearest branch but the lion's claws hooked my thigh and tore it off."

Andrews spent the next week naked ("What a relief not to have to accessorize!") until the threat of sunburn forced him to fashion a skimpy loincloth from vines and leaves. He dressed just in time, for almost at once he stumbled on a safari camp by the side of a rushing river. Andrews recognized the leader of the expedition as none other than Sir Nigel Dunning, the explorer who'd once fired him for climbing Mount Everest wearing high heels and a mink coat.

"I smelled trouble," Andrews said. "Actually, after two weeks in the jungle I smelled, period. However, it dawned on me that my current plight was the result of an attempt on my life by the Masked Marble. I knew that particular villain had to be someone I'd encountered during the course of my many exploits. How could I be sure it wasn't Sir Nigel, curtis in Africa to finish me off?"

"I revealed myself — or rather, my presence — to the safari," Andrews went on. "Nigel didn't recognize me since he was used to seeing me in women's clothes and here I was dressed in foliage. My natural, creamy complexion, darkened by the relentless sun I traveled to impersonate the feral child. I'd probably been mistaken for and when Sir Nigel asked me my name I was prompt with a reply.

"'Me Bimbo,' I said. 'Bimbo the Jungle Boy.'"

"Just what this junket needs," purred a suave voice from somewhere behind the pseudo-savage.

Andrews turned to see

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS CLASSIC

JUNGLE QUEEN

[illegible] Johnson [illegible] elephant gun. It was Sir Nigel's nitpicking nephew, Barry Darlington.

"I hadn't seen such a hunk in many a [illegible] Johnson [illegible] Darlington [illegible] Queen [illegible] magical mystique.

Darlington [illegible] Bumbo to ask the safari as it trapped the [illegible] Jungle Queen. Within [illegible]

[illegible] agreed. [illegible] Darlington [illegible] Queen [illegible] Darlington [illegible] Bumbo

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WACKY WARNING LABELS

Are the End Times coming soon? New warning labels guide buyers in the post-apocalyptic use of common products.

DANGER

Not strangulation-grade.

WARNING

Even with armor plating and spiked machine-gun turrets, vehicle is unlikely to frighten mutant hordes.

CAUTION

Though product may cause eye irritation, it is insufficient for crowd control.

WARNING

Do not attempt to stab attackers with this meat product.

DANGER

Contents will only immobilize the *hair* of an assailant.

She's NOT my best friend! Is too! Is not!

IMAGINARY PLAYMATE!

BY MICHAEL ROVIN

Each week, *Weekly World News* interviews people who possess the strangest skills and abilities on — and sometimes off — the planet. This week we talk to six-year-old Stacy Woods, who has an unusual imaginary playmate.

WWN: We understand you have a very unusual imaginary friend —

SW: Lucy's not my friend. She's my imaginary enemy.

WWN: Why is that?

SW: She's mean. She always hides when my mom and dad are around. She doesn't want to meet them. That's mean and selfish.

WWN: Is that the only

SW: When I have to clean my room she sits there laughing at me. That's not nice either.

WWN: Well, some people are shy and lazy. That doesn't make her your enemy.

SW: She ties my shoelaces together, unplugs my computer and then laughs when I get up to plug it back in and trip.

WWN: Oh. Then why don't

her. Tell her to go away.

SW: I do. She won't leave me alone. Even when I try to get her in trouble, she keeps winning.

WWN: What do you mean?

SW: Every time I blame something on her, like leaving the bathtub running or pouring milk on the cat, my parents think I'm lying and blame me.

of trying to make a new imaginary friend."

SW: I did that!

WWN: What happened?

SW: Steve and Lucy are boyfriend and girlfriend now.

WWN: Fortunately, you won't have to worry for too long. When you get older, Lucy will leave you alone.

SW: I hope so. I heard my mom and dad arguing that he still has his imaginary friend,

WWN HOROSCOPE

BY MADAME MALISA

Renowned medium & psychic

Your weekly star guide

Readers all over the country are using Madame [illegible] Lucky Lottery Numbers [illegible] them win big [illegible] can you! To find [illegible] Numbers, simply [illegible] under your [illegible] chart below. If you [illegible] numbers for the [illegible] area, add your [illegible] need fewer numbers [illegible] numbers listed for [illegible]

YOUR LUCKY LOTTO NUMBERS

ARIES	11, 4, 46, 23, 40, 15
TAURUS	34, 5, 28, 9, 26, 18
GEMINI	19, 2, 20, 40, 3, 34
CANCER	36, 7, 46, 44, 2, 49
LEO	14, 30, 44, 34, 13, 36
SCORPIO	[illegible]
LIBRA	41, [illegible], 43, 27, 48
VIRGO	24, 20, 10, 38, 18, 46
SAGITTARIUS	20, 36, 7, 6, [illegible]
CAPRICORN	10, 43, 25, 26, 11, 33
AQUARIUS	20, 29, 49, 48, 3, 41
PISCES	[illegible]

ARIES

March 21 – April 19

Life is about to pile more onto your plate. Not only will work get busier, but obligations at home will multiply.

You're going to reach your limit this week and like it or not, will need to ask loved ones for help.

The surprise will be in how readily they are willing to extend themselves to help you out. Just be grateful, accept their help and then take a deep breath.

TAURUS

April 20 – May 20

Some projects just like they will never end and one in particular has become the bane of your existence.

While the temptation is to abandon it, do not do so. First, you took this on voluntarily so you have an obligation to see it through.

Second, how you handle this extra task will affect how others see you and this will prove important.

Go the distance.

GEMINI

May 21 – June 20

Not everything can go your way and how you handle defeat is as important as how you handle victory.

By now you should have learned [illegible] opportunities will continue to arise wherever you are so if something doesn't work out as you had hoped, there are other chances to do better.

Giving in to defeat and letting it sour your mood serves no one well, least of all yourself.

CANCER

June 21 – July 22

Your new romance may not be working on the timetable you have overplanned but now is not the time for panic.

Your workplace is subject to many forces beyond your control so learn to deal with the changes and revise your schedules without taking your eye off the goal.

The relationship is there, you just need to be patient with it, and let nature do its part. This will work out.

LEO

July 23 – Aug. 22

Normally, you're the one to give advice. Now it's your turn to listen to your friends.

One in particular will see things in a way you never imagined and that will prove vital. Let them steer you for a little bit until your course is a sure one and then take over.

When you accomplish your task, make certain to express your appreciation for their efforts.

Friendships like this are all too rare.

VIRGO

Aug. 23 – Sept. 22

The big picture is finally clear and what you see delights you.

Now you need to focus your efforts on the future and making the picture a reality. It will take a lot of ingenuity coupled with hard work.

This will likely require the help of others but know when to ask for help and be certain you're not delegating because you're afraid of doing the heavy lifting yourself.

LIBRA

Sept. 23 – Oct. 22

The time has come to make some decisions regarding your private life.

It's good you have your mind made up but now you have to express those decisions to others. Be prepared for some to see things differently and therefore not agree with your choices. Have a dialogue to explore all sides, which will make your decision certain.

Still, it's your life and you need to be surrounded by the choosing voices.

SCORPIO

Oct. 23 – Nov. 21

Sometimes you can be right in how you perceive the way things work. Not everyone sees the world in the same way.

Take advantage and listen to a friend who has a wildly divergent worldview. See things from their perspective and you may realize you can make some changes that will improve your life.

Changes can be good and beneficial and most certainly, not scary.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22 – Dec. 21

Tongues are wagging and yes, this week they will be talking about you.

Don't let the comments get to you — it's just your turn in the spotlight and soon that light will shift elsewhere.

Keep doing what you're doing if the methods and results work to your satisfaction.

By all means, don't make radical changes just because of some idle, ill-conceived comments.

CAPRICORN

Dec. 22 – Jan. 19

It's a complicated week as you will want to indulge in a bit of travel.

Atop that, you find an opportunity to score some bonuses — never a bad thing — but you need to be certain you have the time.

Others want your perspective as an issue and here's a chance to show off your intelligence in a [illegible] constructive way. Choose

AQUARIUS

Jan. 20 – Feb. 18

You've been somewhat all over the place lately. That has to stop.

Step back and figure out how things got out of control, then determine what it will take to restore equilibrium.

Don't overreact and try to do too much, too quickly. Make a plan with steps that can be handled one at a time and then set to

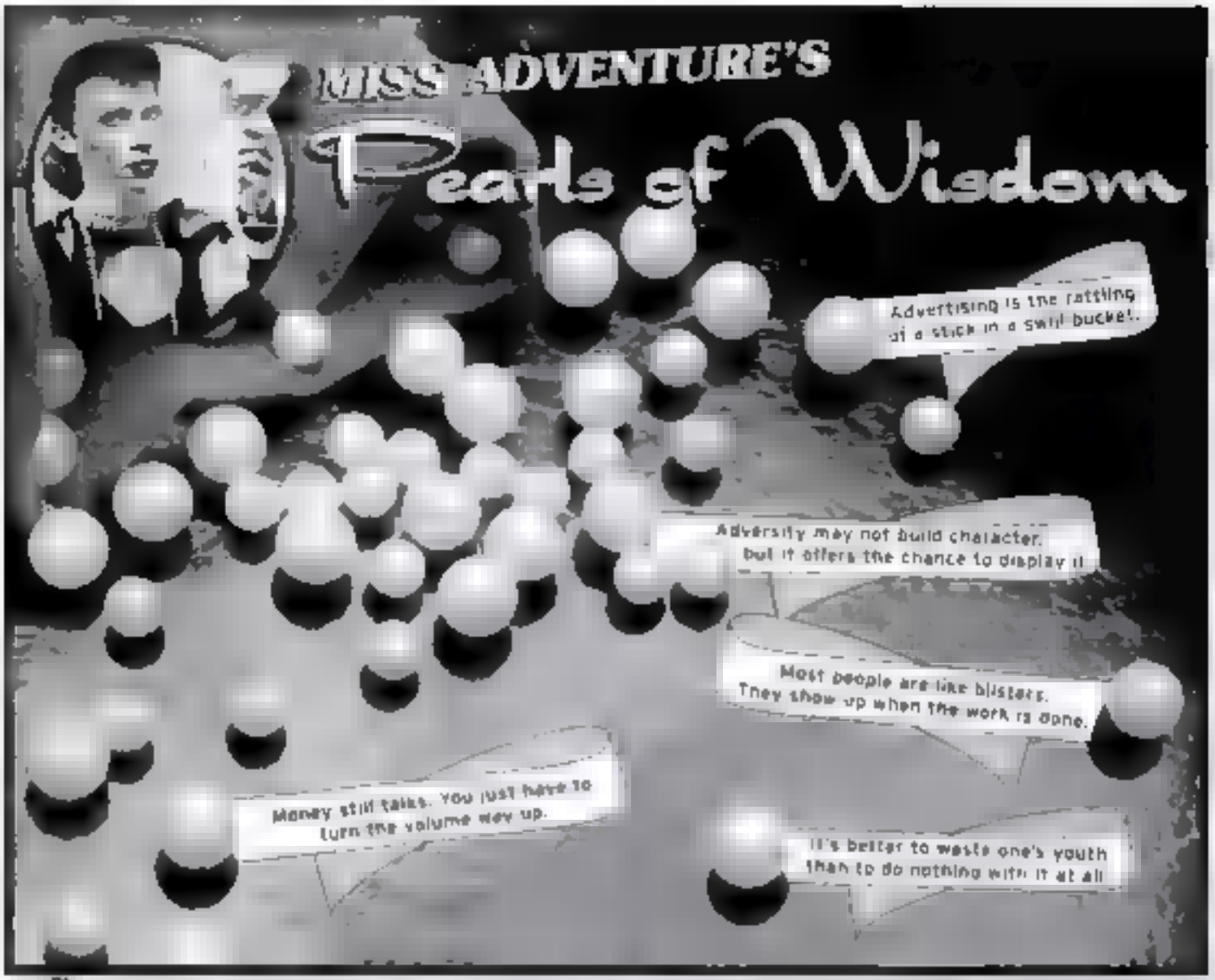
PISCES

Feb. 19 – March 20

This is the week to regain control of your life. Don't blow it.

You and your friends have been stymied by a series of obstacles that appear larger than they really are.

Together, you can surmount these delays and get on with your lives. The key is working together, supporting one another and listening to good advice and cautions



FIND A MONKEY, WIN INSTANT CASH!

Get all the cash he swiped from the boss' wallet!

YOU CAN win instant cash just by reading this week's issue of Weekly World News – and finding the monkey who swiped the boss' wallet. You'll win a nutty $5, $10, $20, $50, $100 or more – all the bills he pulls out for you! All you have to do is find him – and the cash he's holding – on another page in this issue, then clip the handy coupon below and paste or tape your completed entry to the back of a postcard delivered to the U.S. post office. Or you can write the answer on the back of the card. Don't forget your name, address and phone number so we can tell you where if you win.

We'll draw one name from all correct entries. No purchase is necessary to win but you must be 18 years old or older to enter.

Employees of American Media Inc. and its subsidiaries are not eligible. All federal, state and local laws apply. Entries must be postmarked by April 2, 2007. Congratulations to our sock monkey winner, W.C. Simmons of

SOCK MONKEY CONTEST

I found the sock monkey in WWN's March 26, 2007 issue on Page: ____

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Home phone: (___) _____

Are you a Weekly World News subscriber? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Send entries to: Weekly World News Sock Monkey, 1 Park Avenue, 3rd Floor,

Solution to this week's Puzzle on Page 28

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS EXTREME OPINION

MY AMERICA

BY ED ANGER

THE PORNING OF ART

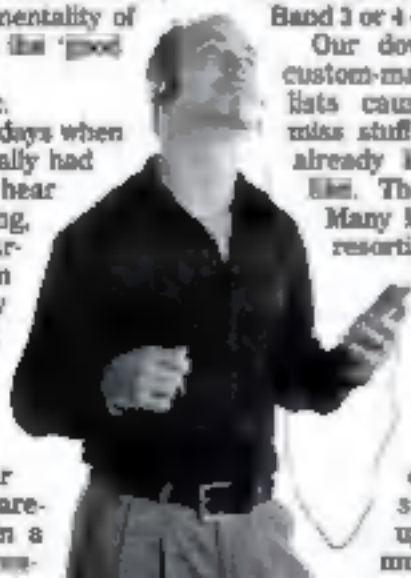
REMEMBER when films relied on character development instead of flashy special effects?

I'm as angry as Thomas Edison at an overheated wax factory. With the death of VHS, our shift from analog to digital is complete. Well, that's no loss. The picture quality was never that hot. However, the next phase looks even scarier as all roads lead to downloads. But of what?

The answer is porn. And I don't mean literal content — I mean the mentality of skipping to just the 'good parts.'

Look at music.

Gone are the days when consumers actually had to buy a single to hear their favorite song, and then purchased the album because they liked that song or the artist. Gone are the days when doing so allowed us to discover new treasures, carefully arranged in a dramatic progression from artists like the Beatles or Bruce Springsteen building and pacing a collection of music. Will anything match that sense of discovering an unheralded gem that was tucked on Side B, Band 3 or 4 or 5?



Our downloaded, custom-made playlists cause us to miss stuff we don't already know and like. The result? Many bands are resorting to recording cover songs hoping a listener will less-accidentally stumble upon their music while That stifles *their* creativity and we all suffer.

And it isn't just music. Take a look at TV. Remember when we watched sitcoms like *All in the Family* and *Family Ties*? Those shows had characters who made us care more about them than about a single, smug zinger designed to get an audience to go 'Whoo-whoo!'

Then there are movies. The big films used to have depth as well as gloss. You didn't come from *Ben-Hur* thinking, 'Gee, what a chariot race!' You didn't walk from *Gone With the Wind* musing, 'Heckuva fire.' You remembered the characters and their journey. How much do we really know about Captain Jack Sparrow or the latest Superman or Nicolas Cage in – well, just about anything?

I'm not griping about of us inevitably vanish in the process. The problem is, the parts we are losing now have to do with attention span and anything other than empty calories. What if we started reading novels the way we watch DVDs and just skipped to the chapters that had big events? What would we learn about the human condition if we avoided Ahab and Ishmael and sailed right on to the big White Whale sinking ships and being attacked with harpoons?

What's missing is balance. I'm not saying there isn't a place for all kinds of experiences.

But we need to stop cherrypicking before all our entertainment becomes as one-dimensional as the letters XXX.

Ed Anger

DEAR EDITOR: I worked all month on a fifty-page paper about the biggest, oldest stars in the galaxy, and the computer suddenly ate my homework. To make things worse, as if they could be, the stupid machine just started pulling in words from other files, like some kind of black hole. The term paper's due tomorrow and I have nothing to turn in. I hope you get this, because now it's starting to suck up ever –

– Billy Carlton, Memphis, Tenn.

♦ ♦ ♦

Dear Editor: My buddies and I all work together in Manhattan, and we also live near each other in New Jersey. So every day I'm hauling their lazy bones to work under the Hudson River, through the Lincoln Tunnel, and back again. I gotta tell ya, the trip is really starting to take more than a 'toll' on my nerves.

– Hank Everest, Jersey City, N.J.

Sounds like you've developed Carpool Tunnel Syndrome.

♦ ♦ ♦

Dear Editor: Something's screwy with my front door. I stuck my key in the lock and turned and was left holding only the head of the key. It looked like the lock just chomped off the whole body and ate it! I called in a locksmith, but he didn't see anything unusual. He couldn't even find the rest of the key! I swear there's something strange lurking in there. Have you ever heard of such a thing as a lockness monster?

– Dounia Hilgard, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

No, but we post a Sask-watch.

♦ ♦ ♦

Dear Editor: Yesterday a boy told me he wanted to get together this weekend to show me some cool BMX stunts, but I'm not sure it's such a good idea. What's a 'seat grab' anyway?

– Ronnie Hopper, Darien, Conn.

♦ ♦ ♦

Dear Editor: I was playing in my local bar's 'Stripes & Solids Billiards' championship game when my opponent banked the eight-ball off the table and right into my face. I was knocked cold but apparently his eight ball still went in the corner pocket for the win. My nose was broken, my eyes were bloody and I lost the match. I'm really upset that I can't show my face around there anymore.

– O'Grady Peterson, Bloomington, Ind.

Sorry you got 'black-balled' . . .

♦ ♦ ♦

Dear Editor: I got suspended for writing "[illegible]" on the side of the school during recess in chalk. While I admitted I wrote the googol out single-handedly, I told my teacher I was simply perfecting my mathematical and fine motor skills. Well, she didn't buy it and made me wash the whole thing off. Yeah, I definitely found out how hard subtracting a 'one' with a 'hundred zeros' really was!

– Willem Godfrey, York, England

♦ ♦ ♦

Dear Editor: I just returned from

ALIEN MATTERS!

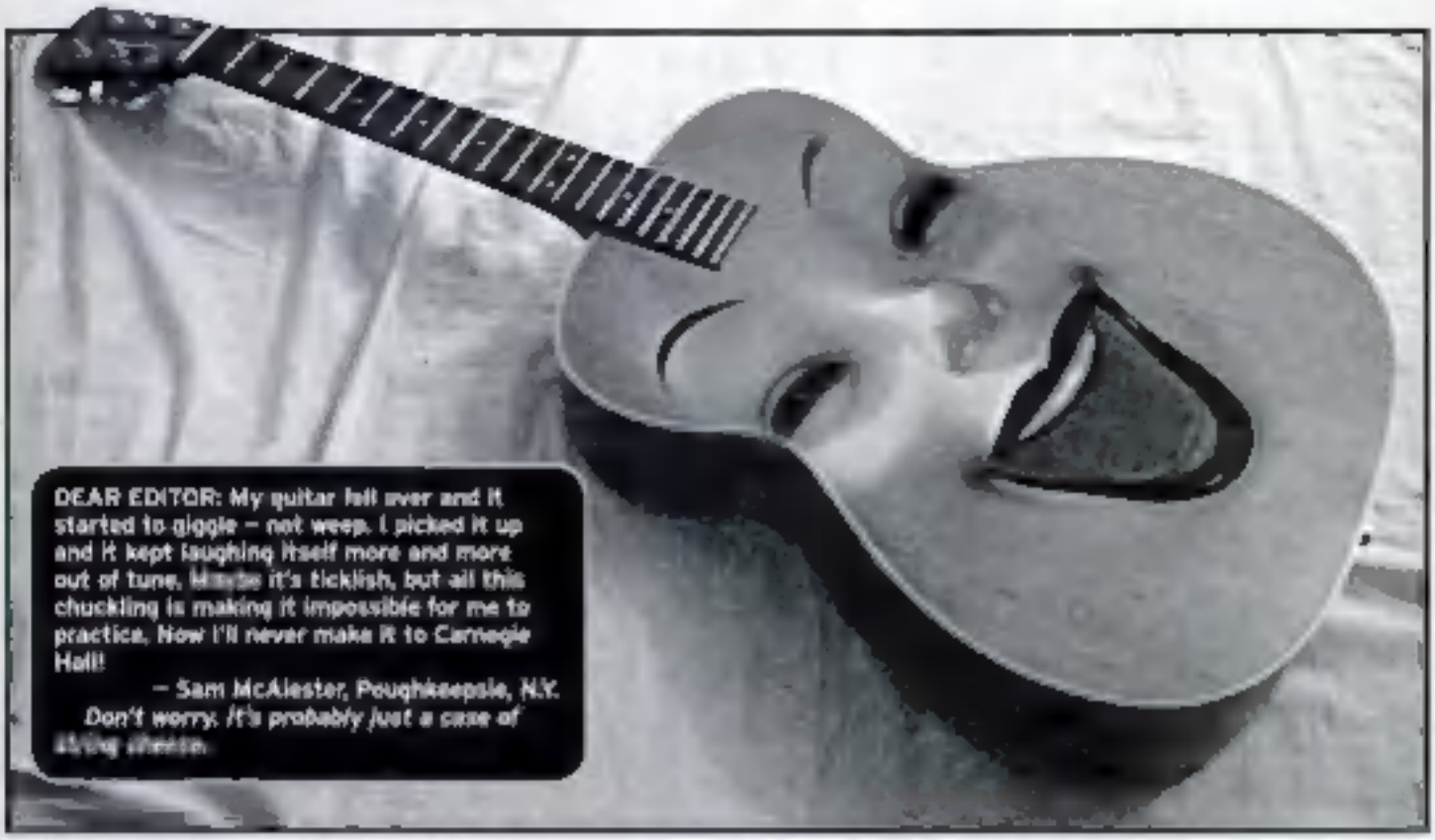
DEAR EDITOR: I'm confused about the new 'space heater' my neighbor's got on his back porch. How can one little machine keep the entire universe warm? Does he have to launch it into space for it to work? Is that why it's shaped like a rocket-saucer?

– Julius Smith, Gainesan, Ga.

♦ ♦ ♦

DEAR EDITOR: What the heck is *tofu*? Even my dog won't eat it! It tastes like a dirty cloud and looks like some sort of alien food! You know, I'll bet that's what it is 'cause it even has a 'ufo' in it!

– Carrie Holden, Ridgeport, Utah



DEAR EDITOR: My guitar fell over and it started to giggle – not weep. I picked it up and it kept laughing itself more and more out of tune. Maybe it's ticklish, but all this chuckling is making it impossible for me to practice. Now I'll never make it to Carnegie Hall!

– Sam McAlester, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Don't worry. It's probably just a case of string cheese.

Taiwan and honestly, I'm deeply disturbed by their modern cuisine. I can't tell you how many entrees are made of dogs! I was offered "Collie-Flower," "Brottweiler," and even some "German Shepherd Pie!" Enough with the dog food! I'm starving for a hearty, old-fashioned hot dog!

– Alex [redacted], Wichita, Kan.

♦ ♦ ♦

Dear Editor: I've been spending more time camping and finally heard oaks bark! I'm not exactly sure what they're trying to say to each other but it all sounds pretty rough – or should I say 'ruff?' Anyway, I'm thinking of traveling the world to see what other trees have to say.

– Ryan Borst, Lee, Mass.

Let us know when you become a palm reader.

DEAR EDITOR: I heard the most beautiful music while waiting for the subway last night. I looked around but didn't see where it was coming from. The train arrived and I got on. It wasn't until we were leaving the station that I noticed the small gnome playing the flute in the corner. Although his rhythm was a little off, the little guy could jam! You truly never know what you'll find next in New York.

– Paige Ricardo, Queens, N.Y.

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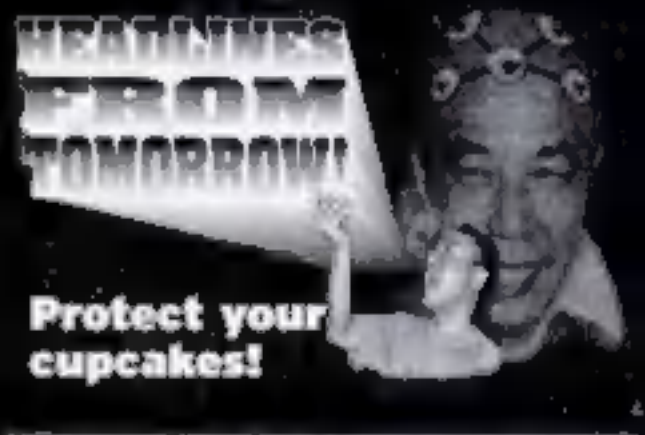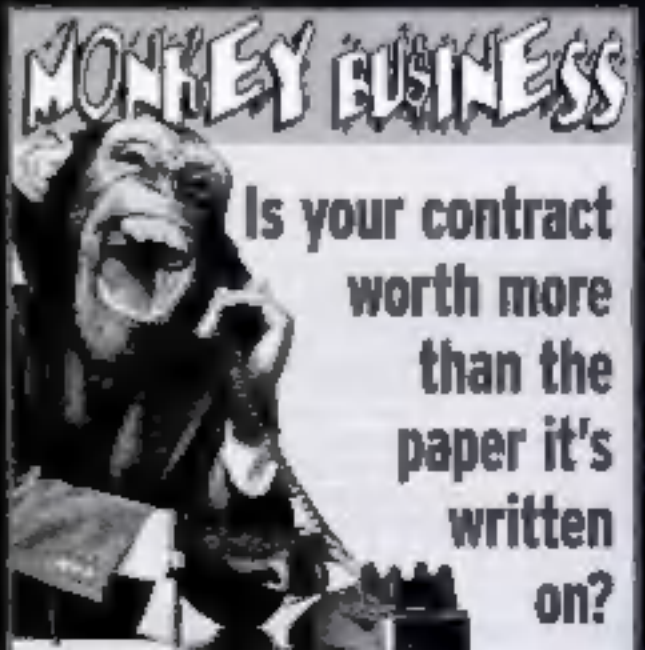
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